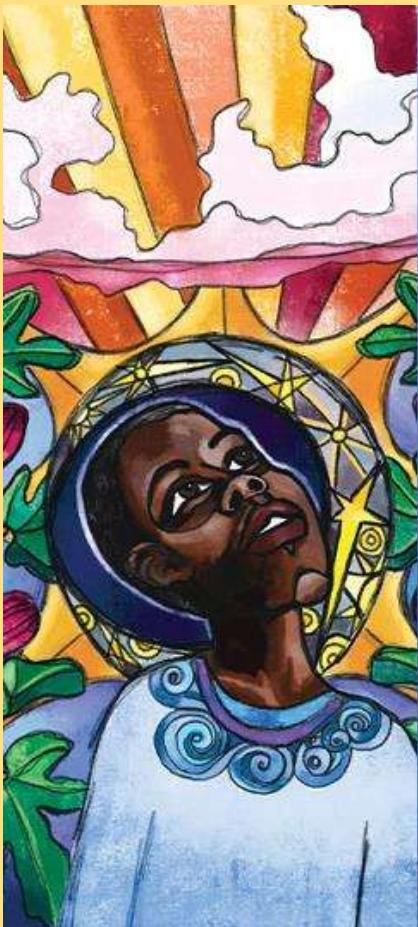


# Second Sunday of Christmas



**The Word  
became flesh  
and lived  
among us**

JOHN 1:14



**TRINITY LUTHERAN**  
CHURCH OF STEPHENS CITY VIRGINIA

810 Fairfax Street  
Stephens City, VA  
Sunday Worship, 9:30AM  
(540) 869-4019  
January 4, 2026

### ***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.

- This Service; Greeters: Martha Cooley. Lessons & Prayers Reader: Hilda Painter.  
Communion Assistant: Hilda Painter.
- Next Service; Greeters: Nan Righter. Lessons & Prayers Reader: Kathy Carroll.  
Communion Assistant: Barry Hockenberry.

**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/>

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**CONFESSiON AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, <sup>+</sup> one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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

Gracious God, **have mercy on us.**

**We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin.**

**We are truly sorry and humbly repent.**

**In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do.**

**Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the <sup>+</sup> Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**



## GATHERING SONG

## Listen! You Nations (LBW 14)

*Refrain*

Lis - ten! you na - tions of the world: lis - ten to the Word of the Lord. An -

nounce it from coast to coast; de - clare it to dis - tant is - lands.

1 The Lord who scat - tered Is - ra - el will gath - er his peo - ple a - gain; and

*Refrain*

he will keep watch o - ver them as a shep - herd watch - es his flock.

2 With shouts of joy they will come, their fac - es ra-diant-ly hap - py, for the

*Refrain*

Lord is so gen - 'rous to them; he show - ers his peo - ple with gifts.

3 Young wom - en will dance for joy, and men young and old will make

mer - ry. Like a gar - den re-freshed by the rain, they will nev - er be in want a -

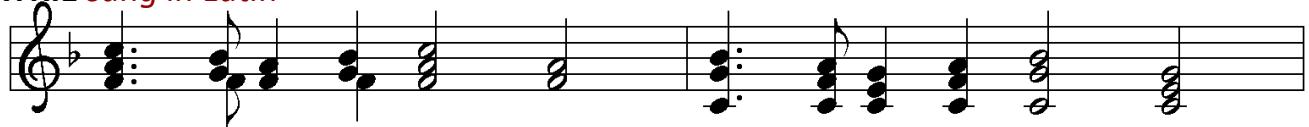
gain. Break in - to shouts of great joy; Ja - cob is free a - gain! Teach

na - tions to sing the song: "The Lord has saved his peo - ple!"

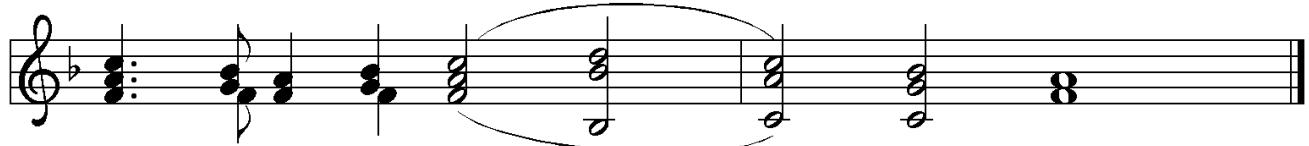
## GREETING

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.**

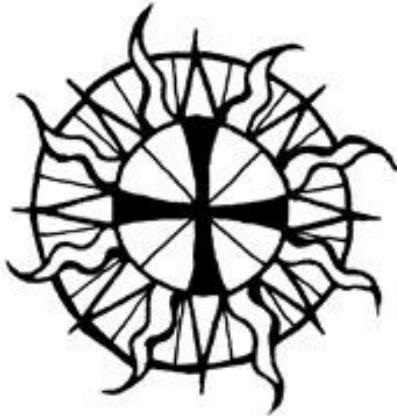
### KYRIE *sung in Latin*



1, 3 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.  
2 Chris - te e - lei - son. Chris - te e - lei - son.  
1, 3 Lord, . . . have mer - cy. Lord, . . . have mer - cy.  
2 Christ, . . . have mer - cy. Christ, . . . have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.  
Chris - te e - le - i - son.  
Lord, . . . have mer - cy.  
Christ, . . . have mer - cy.



## CANTICLE OF PRAISE vs 1, and Refrain

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
 2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

and the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
 What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

*Refrain*

Glo - - - - - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo - - - - -

ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:7-14

Hilda Painter

A reading from Jeremiah.

<sup>7</sup> Thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,  
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;  
proclaim, give praise, and say,  
“Save, O LORD, your people,  
the remnant of Israel.”

<sup>8</sup> See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north  
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,  
among them the blind and the lame,  
those with child and those in labor together;  
a great company, they shall return here.

<sup>9</sup> With weeping they shall come,  
and with consolations I will lead them back;  
I will let them walk by brooks of water,  
in a straight path where they shall not stumble,  
for I have become a father to Israel,  
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

<sup>10</sup> Hear the word of the LORD, O nations,  
and declare it in the coastlands far away;  
say, “He who scattered Israel will gather him  
and will keep him as a shepherd does a flock.”

<sup>11</sup> For the LORD has ransomed Jacob  
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

<sup>12</sup> They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,  
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD,  
over the grain, the wine, and the oil,  
and over the young of the flock and the herd;  
their life shall become like a watered garden,  
and they shall never languish again.

<sup>13</sup> Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,  
and the young men and the old shall be merry.  
I will turn their mourning into joy;  
I will comfort them and give them gladness for sorrow.

<sup>14</sup> I will give the priests their fill of fatness,  
and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,  
says the LORD.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 147:12-20**



Wor - ship the LORD, O Je - ru - sa-lem; praise your God, O Zi - on.



<sup>12</sup> Worship the LORD, <sup>1</sup> O Jerusalem;  
praise your <sup>1</sup> God, O Zion,

<sup>13</sup> **who has strengthened the bars <sup>1</sup> of your gates  
and has blessed your chil- <sup>1</sup> dren within you.**

<sup>14</sup> God has established peace <sup>1</sup> on your borders  
and satisfies you with the <sup>1</sup> finest wheat.

<sup>15</sup> **God sends out a command <sup>1</sup> to the earth,  
a word that runs <sup>1</sup> very swiftly. R**

<sup>16</sup> God gives <sup>1</sup> snow like wool,  
scattering <sup>1</sup> frost like ashes.

<sup>17</sup> **God scatters <sup>1</sup> hail like bread crumbs.  
Who can stand a- <sup>1</sup> gainst God's cold?**

<sup>18</sup> The LORD sends forth the <sup>1</sup> word and melts them;  
the wind blows, and the <sup>1</sup> waters flow.

<sup>19</sup> **God declares the <sup>1</sup> word to Jacob,  
statutes and judg- <sup>1</sup> ments to Israel.**

<sup>20</sup> The LORD has not done so to any <sup>1</sup> other nation;  
they do not know God's judgments. <sup>1</sup> Hallelujah! R

## SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-14

A reading from Ephesians.

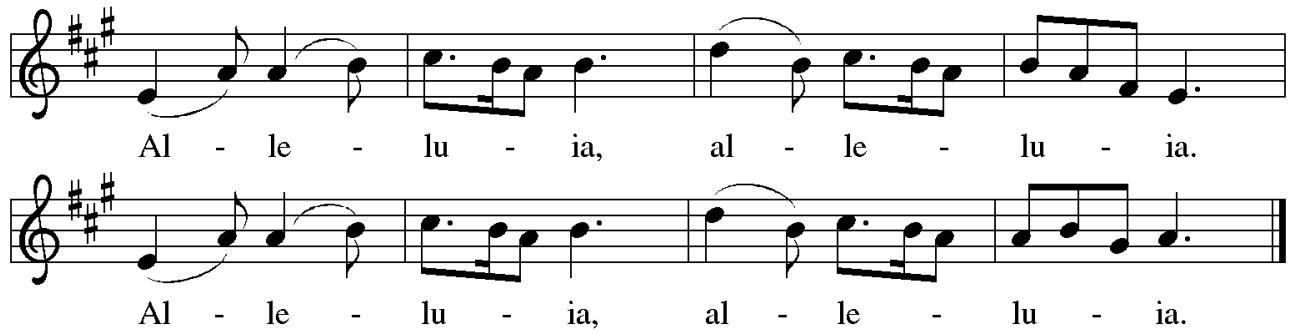
<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup> just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. <sup>5</sup> He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, <sup>6</sup> to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup> In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace <sup>8</sup> that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup> he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, <sup>10</sup> as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup> In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, <sup>12</sup> so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup> In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; <sup>14</sup> this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Celtic Alleluia*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## GOSPEL: John 1: 1-18

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup> in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup> The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

<sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did

not know him. <sup>11</sup> He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him.

<sup>12</sup> But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup> (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ") <sup>16</sup> From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup> The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup> No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ**

**SERMON**

Rev. Larry Closter

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *That Boy-Child of Mary* (ELW 293)

*Refrain*

That boy - child of Mar - y was born in a sta - ble,

a man - ger his cra - dle in Beth - le - hem.

1 What shall we call him, child of the man - ger?  
2 His name is Je - sus, God ev - er with us,  
3 How can he save us, how can he help us,  
4 Gift of the Fa - ther, to hu - man moth - er,

*Refrain*

What name is giv - en in Beth - le - hem?  
God giv - en for us in Beth - le - hem.  
born here a - mong us in Beth - le - hem?  
makes him our broth - er in Beth - le - hem.

## ENROLLMENT OF CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

*The candidates and their parents are invited to come forward*

Dear candidates for Confirmation,

you have already received the life of Christ in Baptism.

You have been called by God and welcomed into the Lutheran community of Christians.

On the day of your Baptism, your parents and godparents made promises for you;

you were very young then, so they spoke on your behalf.

Today you are here to present yourselves as candidates who desire to confirm the faith in which you were baptized.

You are to prepare yourself for confirmation by prayer, study, and faithful worship, at home, in the classroom, and here in the sanctuary.

We as a congregation are here to support you. We acknowledge your desire to be further initiated into the life of the Church. We ask you now to join with all of us in renewing our baptismal promises.

*The congregation stands*

Do you believe in God,

the Father almighty,

Creator of heaven and earth?

**All: I do.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered death by crucifixion and was buried. He was raised from the dead and is now seated at the right hand of the Father?

**All: I do.**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and life everlasting?

**All: I do.**

This is our faith. This is the faith of the Church. We are proud to profess our trust in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you sent your only Son to rescue us from the power of sin, and to give us the freedom only your sons and daughters enjoy. We pray for these candidates of confirmation. Strengthen them during these weeks and months of preparation, for the coming of your Holy Spirit so that they will grow in faith and understanding to become mature Christian in the fullness of Christ. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Candidates and their parents return to their seats.*

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Empowered by the news of Christ's birth, let us pray boldly for the church, creation, and all who are in need.

O God, you reveal yourself wherever two or three are gathered in your name. Be with us now, not only in the infant Jesus and resurrected Christ, but in the beloved people of this assembly. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You reveal yourself in the waters of the womb; in brooks, ponds, and oceans; and in the waters of baptism. Grant us wisdom to tenderly care for the earth as a garden watered by your grace. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You reveal yourself in blessed diversity. Help us to look for you in people near and far, in bodies of all kinds, and in kindred young and old. Let us seek you in many places, praising you in many tongues. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You reveal yourself in new life. Support those beginning a new job, a new relationship, or a new living situation, especially those displaced because of tragedy or loss. Be with all others who need your life-giving touch this day especially Shirley, Louise, Paul, Hadley, Nikki, Michael, Jeff, Pat, Dorthée (**worshippers may add names silently or aloud**). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You reveal yourself in holy communion. Sustain all who provide food and fellowship in this congregation and in the wider community. Make our tables signs of your welcoming presence among us. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You promise to turn mourning into joy and to comfort those who weep. We remember those who have died and look to being united with them in your glory. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

## PEACE

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

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**    Gentle Mary Laid Her Child    Arr. John Behnke    Trinity Choir



*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.*

**OFFERING PRESENTATION** *Brightest and Best of the Stars* (ELW 303) vs. 4

1 Bright-est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,  
 2 Cold on his cra - dle the dew - drops are shin - ing;  
 3 What shall we give him, in cost - ly de - vo - tion?  
 4 Vain - ly we of - fer each am - ple ob - la - tion,  
 5 Bright-est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,

dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.  
 low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;  
 Shall we bring in - cense and of - f'rings di - vine,  
 vain - ly with gifts would his fa - vor se - cure;  
 dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.

Star of the east, the ho - ri - zon a - born - ing,  
 an - gels a - dore him in slum - ber re - clin - ing,  
 gems of the moun - tain and pearls of the o - cean,  
 rich - er by far is the heart's ad - o - ra - tion,  
 Star of the east, the ho - ri - zon a - born - ing,

guide where our in - fant re - deem - er is laid.  
 mak - er and mon - arch and sav - ior of all.  
 myrrh from the for - est or gold from the mine?  
 dear - er to God are the prayers of the poor.  
 guide where our in - fant re - deem - er is laid.

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt.  
Music: MORNING STAR, James P. Harding, 1850–1911, adapt.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our 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.

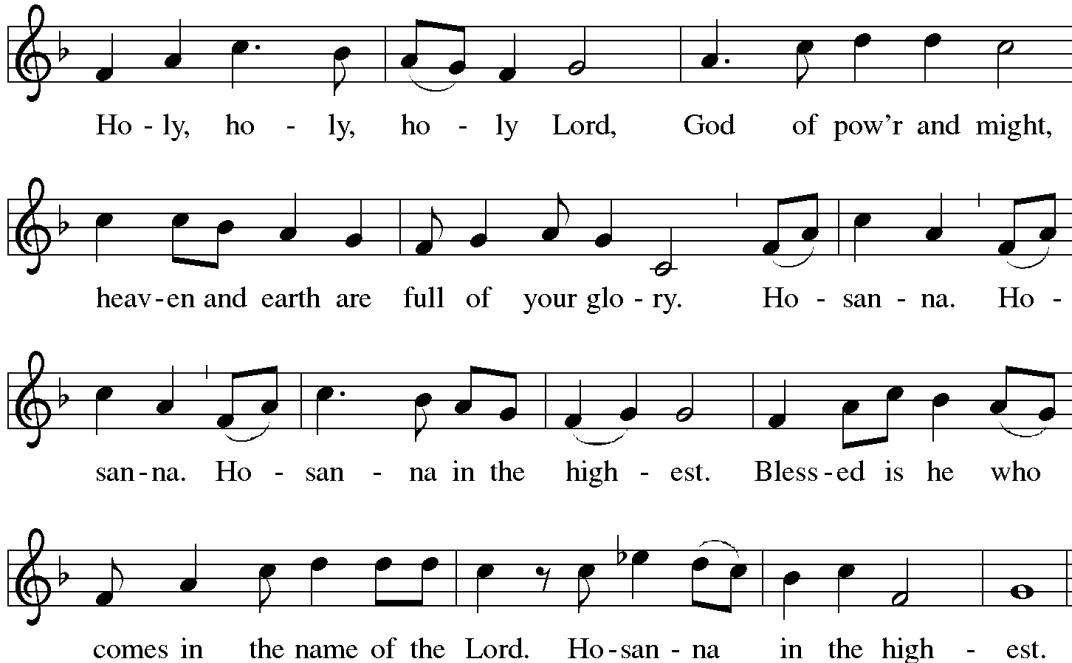
**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

## 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.

In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh  
you have opened the eyes of faith  
to a new and radiant vision of your glory,  
that, beholding the God made visible,  
we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.

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. 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 in the high - est.

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:

beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

**We praise you, O God.**

Generations bless your faithfulness:

through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

**We bless you, O God.**

We give you thanks for your dear Son:

at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

**We thank you, O God.**

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.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:

in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

**Amen.**

## **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.

*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*

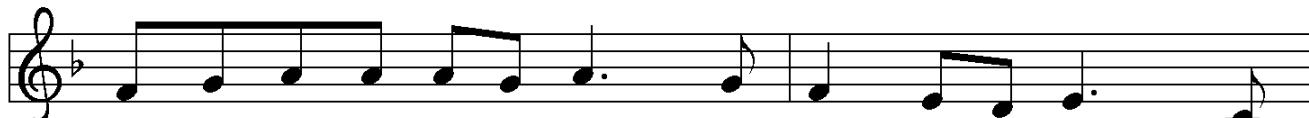
The body of Christ, given for you.

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.*

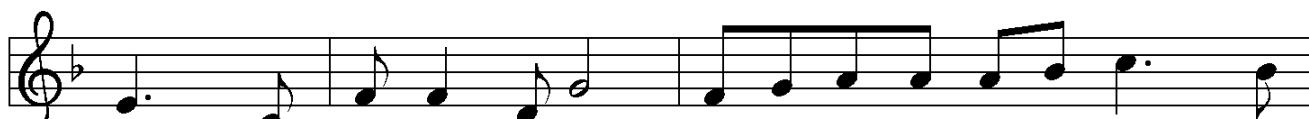
## COMMUNION SONG



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.

## SONGS DURING COMMUNION

## What Child Is This (ELW 296)

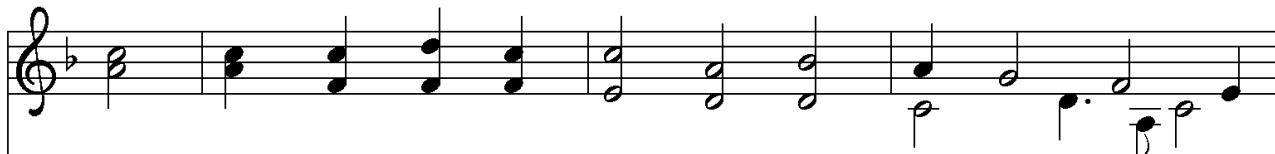
1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?  
 2 Why lies he in such mean es-tate where ox and ass are feed-ing?  
 3 So bring him in-cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.

Whom an-gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep-ing?  
 Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si-lent Word is plead-ing.  
 The King of kings sal-va-tion brings; let lov-ing hearts en-throne him.

This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an-gels sing;  
 Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;  
 Raise, raise the song on high, the vir-gin sings her lul-la-by;

haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar-y!  
 hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar-y!  
 joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar-y!

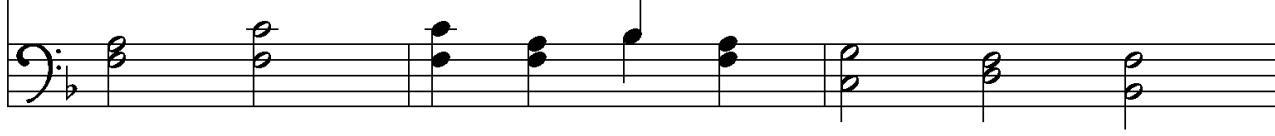
Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming (ELW 272)



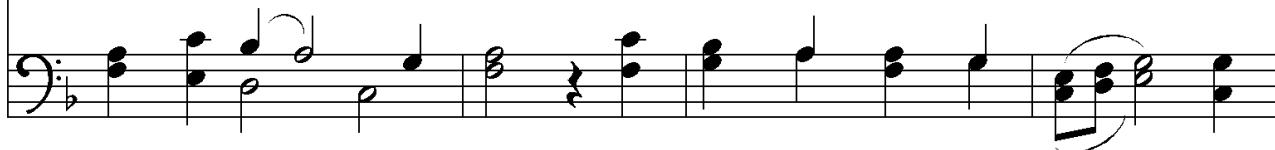
1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom-ing from ten - der stem hath  
 2 I - sai - ah had fore - told it, the rose I have in  
 3 This flow'r, whose fra - grace ten - der with sweet-ness fills the  
 4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, who felt our hu - man



sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as  
 mind; with Mar - y we be - hold it, the  
 air, dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the  
 woe; O Sav - ior, king of glo - ry, who



seers of old have sung, it came, a flow'r so bright, a -  
 vir - gin moth - er kind. To show God's love a - right, she  
 dark-ness ev - 'ry - where. True man, yet ver - y God, from  
 dost our weak - ness know: bring us at length, we pray, to



mid the cold of win - ter, when half - spent was the night.  
 bore to us a Sav - ior, when half - spent was the night.  
 sin and death he saves us and light - ens ev - 'ry load.  
 the bright courts of heav - en and in - to end - less day.



Text: German carol, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker, 1851–1934, sts. 1-2; Harriet R. Krauth, 1845–1925, st. 3; John C. Matthes, 1876–1948, st. 4

Music: ES IST EIN ROS, *Alte catholische geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1599; arr. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

## POST COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## BLESSING

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The God of all grace  bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

## SENDING SONG *Angels, from the Realms of Glory* (ELW 275)



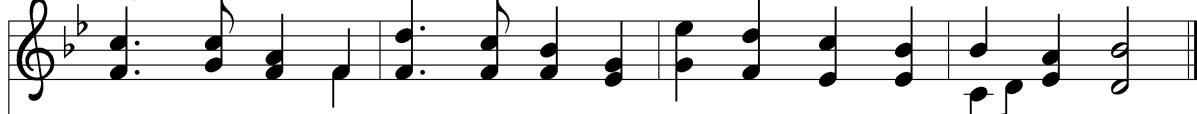
1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch-ing o'er your flocks by night,  
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;  
4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais-ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,



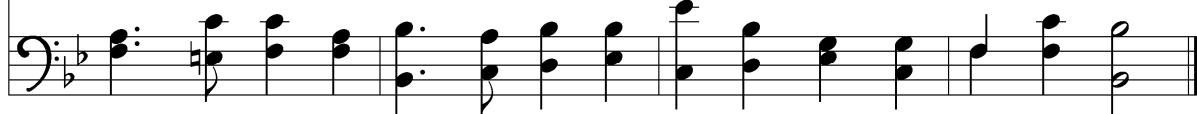
once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:  
God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.  
seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.  
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.



*Refrain*



Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.



## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

*Hodie Christus Natus est*

Robert J. Powell (1932-2025)

## In The Know

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

 **Monday, January 5** – CMSP Music private lesson @ 2:30 pm | piano, Room 203 & violin, Sanctuary

 **Friday, January 9**

– Bible study and discussion of the book of Acts @ 10 AM | Room 205

– CMSP Music private lesson @ 5-6 pm | Room 203

 **Sunday, January 11** – Baptism of Our Lord ~ Service @ 9:30 AM

– Installment of the 2026 Congregational Council

– 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

### REMINDERS

#### ❖ **2026 Offering Envelopes**

If you did not receive yours, they are available on the side table in the Parish Hall.

Any not picked up by **January 4** will be mailed. Questions? Contact **Michael Lambert** at **(540) 539-8631**.

❖ *The new quarter of **Christ in Our Home** daily devotional booklets are in the rack in the Narthex. You may have to scoot around the Tree of Warmth to get to them.*

❖ *2026 Chancel flower calendar is posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex. The entire year is there, so you can choose your Sundays for all of 2025.*

## 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 **Laurie 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** - Rehearsals

Thursdays @5:45PM, please join us in making a joyful noise, if interested please Contact: Ricky Gearhart, Music Director –

[music@trinitychurchvirginia.org](mailto:music@trinitychurchvirginia.org). 

#### • **Chime Choir** – Sundays after service | Contact: Ricky Gearhart,

Music Director –

[music@trinitychurchvirginia.org](mailto:music@trinitychurchvirginia.org)

#### • **Food Pantry Item of the Month:**

**Raman Noodles** | Contact: Kim Begnaud-

Hampton– [kbegnaud0101@yahoo.com](mailto:kbegnaud0101@yahoo.com)

# January

## Save the Date Calendar

- 1- Office closed
- 4 - Second Sunday of Christmas ~ *Service @ 9:30 AM*
  - Installment of Youth Confirmation Participants
- 11- Baptism of our Lord ~ *Service @ 9:30 AM*
  - Installment of Council Members
- 13- 9AM - 2PM Blood Drive, Parish Hall
  - 9:30AM Sewing for the Savior, Rm. 204
  - 11:30AM Lutheran Church Women, Rm. 205
  - 6:30 PM Congregational Council Meeting, Rm. 205
- 18-Noisy Offering -- Access Independence
- 19-Office closed, MLK day
- 27-9:30AM Sewing for the Savior, Rm. 204
- 28-5:30PM Community Meal: soup, grilled cheese, dessert

## Birthdays

Today we celebrate the birthdays within our church family. Please join us as we sing Happy Birthday in the Parish Hall after service:

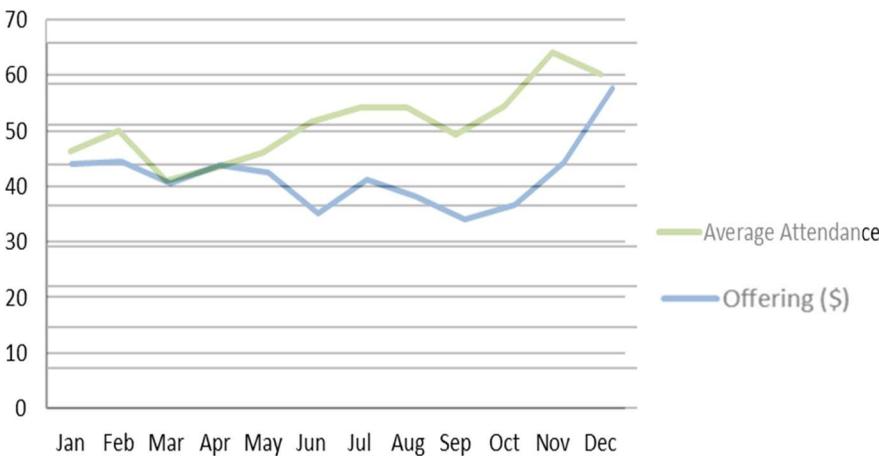
- **January 1** – Kim Begnaud-Hampton
- **January 4** – Kavin Kowis
- **January 13** – Loretta Koontz
- **January 21** – Ralph Gregory, Amy Hall
- **January 23** – Maxine Rogers
- **January 25** – Nancy Huffman
- **January 29** – Cody Wolf

We invite you to join us in sharing smiles, blessings, and birthday wishes as we celebrate together. 🎉🎂

January 13<sup>th</sup> – Tuesday 9AM - 2PM American RedCross Blood Drive, Parish Hall

## 2025 Year end Re-Cap

### Average Attendance & General Offering



Month	Average Attendance	Gen. Offering (\$)
Jan	46.25	3010.25
Feb	50	3037.16
Mar	40.8	2780.13
Apr	43.3	2999.47
May	46	2913.85
Jun	51.6	2401.33
Jul	54.25	2815.21
Aug	54.2	2617.04
Sep	49.25	2334.89
Oct	54.5	2515.17
Nov	64	3033.22
Dec	60.17	3944.47
<b>Yearly Average</b>	<b>51.2</b>	<b>2866.85</b>

## 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