

GATHERING MUSIC

MEDITATION PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Hope of the world, bring your hope to us this day. We pray for those who are hopeless, suffering or living with loss. We pray for people we know, people we hear about in the news, and for strangers who remain invisible to us. We especially lift each person who lives in poverty, not only in this country but in huge numbers across most of the world. May we be a light to them in practical ways and prayerful ways even as you are a light to us. Keep us ever mindful of each blessing you bring so that we are blessings to others; let the path of blessing move forward forever. In the name of the coming Christ child we pray. Amen.

GATHERING SONGS

PASTORAL WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TRINITY WELCOME

THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY

"We must accept finite disappointment, but never lose infinite hope"

-Martin Luther King Jr.

"The Christmas message is that there is hope for a ruined humanity—hope of pardon, hope of peace with God, hope of glory—because at the Father's will Jesus Christ became poor and was born in a stable so that thirty years later, he might hang on a cross. It is the most wonderful message that the world has ever heard or will hear."

-J. I. Packer (English-Canadian Theologian)

CALL TO WORSHIP (*stand*)

Leader: We are in a season the church has designated to arouse expectation.

Congregation: We find it difficult to raise our expectations.

Leader: We have too often been disappointed.

Congregation: Yet we worship a God who surprises us.

Leader: Our God does not act in predictable ways.

Congregation: We can take the risk of hope because of who God is.

Leader: We hope for a new experience of God's presence in this season.

Congregation: We hope for God's peace and eternal life in the age to come.

Leader: Let us turn our hearts to God in hope and expectation.

Congregation: Let us trust in God's future.

PRAISE SONG

"Come, My People"

Come, my peo - ple, wel - come to wor - ship.
Love is in the warmth of this place.
Sing to God a song of thanks-giv - ing!
Sing to God a song of praise! *Fine*

1. Gath - er in safe - ty, wel - comed in Chris - tian love;
2. Stor - ies of Je - sus show us the way to love,
3. Stand with each oth - er in one com - mu - ni - ty,
4. Trust in the Sav - ior fills all my emp - ti - ness,

God touch - es us with strength from a - bove.
how to serve oth - ers, how to for - give.
work - ing to - geth - er, God's reign to see.
re - plac - ing doubt with new faith - ful - ness.

THE CONFESSION

All: We are mindful of the ways we walk in darkness, avoiding the light, Light of the World. We choose to live with despair rather than listen to your words of hope. We choose to stay the same rather than accept the new life to which you draw us. Forgive us for our failure to hope for a brighter world. Create in us a desire for the hope of a life lived in the light. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Leader: Thanks be to God, we are a forgiven people. May this gracious gift of being in right relationship with God lead us to a new hope for the future.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

One: In times of darkness, we seek light.

Many: In times of darkness, God gives light.

One: God promises the light of the world.

Many: We await the light with hopeful hearts.

One: The journey is long, the dark is deep.

Many: And we know that the light comes as promised! Thanks be to God!

Light the Third Candle.

“An Advent Invitation”

1. Light the Ad - vent Can - dle, Let it shine with hope.
2. Light the Ad - vent Can - dle, Let it shine with peace.
3. Light the Ad - vent Can - dle, Let it shine with joy.

5

9
Soon a star will guide us to the One that was fore - told.
Behold a Prince is com - ing and His reign will ne - ver cease.
Soon the Earth will cel - e - brate sweet Ma - ry's lit - tle Boy.

12
To a lone - ly cat - tle stall, God will send the
To a pal - ace, not of might, God will send His
To the man - ger of this world, God will send His

15
Lord of all. Light the Ad - vent Can - - dle,
Ho - ly Light Light the Ad - vent Can - - dle,
Price - less Pearl. Light the Ad - vent Can - - dle,

19
Christ is com - ing soon.(vs2)
Christ is com - ing soon.(refrain)
Christ is com - ing soon.
Refrain

25
Light the Ad - vent Can - dle, Let it shine with love. Soon a Rose will flow - er

30
sent from Heav'n a - bove. To this world a Son is born, a per - fect Rose to
bear the thorn. Our long - ing hearts are wait - ing for that prom - ised morn.(vs.3)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE *(sit)*

MESSAGE IN WORD AND MUSIC

"Darkness Cannot Drive Out Darkness"

"Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love"

THE OFFERING *Please remember that your offerings of money, time and talents enable Trinity to "share the love and promise of God" through its ministries.*

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE COMMUNION SENTENCES

Leader 1: Our days are busy and our hearts are full.

Leader 2: Yet, something is missing.

All: Maranatha! Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!

Leader 1: We put on our "successful, happy" faces out in the world.

Leader 2: Yet, we are empty and sad.

All: Maranatha! Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!

Leader 1: The world shouts "buy," "push ahead," "get your own."

Leader 2: Yet, the gospel whispers "share," "there is enough," "your life is already abundant and good."

All: Maranatha! Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!

Leader 1: Some yearning brings us here — for love, for comfort, for community

Leader 2: Yet, only you, O God, can ultimately fill that need.

All: Maranatha! Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!

Leaders 1 & 2: So we speak these words from the final Book of Revelation, in our own language and in the language of much of the early church:

All: Maranatha! Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!

Leaders 1 & 2: And we pray together.

All: Maranatha! Amen! Come, Lord Jesus! There is room in our hearts and lives for you — room that only you can fill — happiness that only you can bring. Come, Lord Jesus! Maranatha! Amen!

Leader: 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."

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE FAMILY MEAL. (Sit)

All who celebrate Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are invited to commune today.

*When you receive the bread, you may either dip the bread in the first chalice of wine or the second chalice of grape juice
Please indicate to the pastor if you need a gluten free wafer.*

There are individually packaged gluten free wafer/wine in the front pews.

SONGS DURING DISTRIBUTION

"Come Just As You Are"

1. Come just as you are; Hear the Spi - rit call. _
2. Come just as you are; Hear the Spi - rit call. _

Come just as you are; Come and see, come, re - ceive;
Come just as you are; Come, re - ceive Christ the King;

Come and live _ for - ev - er. Life ev - er -
Come and live _ for - ev - er more. *Song Ending*

last - ing, and strength for to - day; Taste the Liv - ing
Wa - ter, _ and nev - er thirst a - gain. *(repeat verse 2)*

"The Gifts of the People"

Now, the peo - ple come. Now the peo - ple re - ceive.
 Now the peo - ple taste. Now the peo - ple be - lieve. While
 wine's sweet fra - grance fills the air, we come, we taste, we
 take, we share, the gifts of the peo - ple for the God of the peo - ple;
 the gifts of God for the peo - ple of God.

"Grace Alone"

1. Ev - 'ry pro - mise we can make, ev - 'ry prayer and step of faith,
 2. Ev - 'ry soul we long to reach, ev - 'ry heart we hope to teach,
 Ev - 'ry dif - f'rence we will make is on - ly by His grace.
 Ev - 'ry - where we share His peace is on - ly by His grace.
 Ev - 'ry moun - tain we will climb, ev - 'ry ray of hope we shine,
 Ev - 'ry lov - ing word we say, ev - 'ry tear we wipe a - way,
 Ev - 'ry bless - ing left be - hind is on - ly by His
 Ev - 'ry sor - row turned to praise is on - ly by His
 grace. Grace a - lone which God sup - plies, strength un - known He will pro
 vide. Christ in us, our Cor - ner - stone, we will go forth in grace a
 lone. lone. We will go forth in grace a - lone.

THE BLESSING (stand)

THE SENDING OUT

Leader: We walk toward the light as the people of God. Go forth from this place, focused on the light that brightens the shadows. The Christ child is coming; let us make a way for his presence in this time and place.

All: Amen.

THE SENDING SONG

"The People Walk"

The peo - ple walk through - out the world to - geth - er and
cry out, "Come, O Lord;" the peo - ple who long to claim the
prom - ise, God's lib - er - at - ing Word.
1. The poor ones of the world a - wait the the
2. You broke the bonds of sin, an un - tied the
3. The life - blood of the world is shed in
dawn of hope, when jus - tice will shine and make op -
cap - tive's hands, re - leased us from fear and slav - 'ry
mind - less war; and fam - 'lies de - sire a home where
pres - sion flee. The emp - ty hands of all are raised to
to the law. We lift our hands in hope, we put our
con - flicts cease. With all the world we lift our hands in
you, Lord God; oh, set us free!
trust in to you, you, O God of you, love.
hope to to you, you, O God of you, peace.

THE DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please join us for a coffee hour after the 9:30 worship service.



Scanning our QR code takes you directly to Trinity's giving page where individuals can make a one-time donation, set up automatic giving and/or visit as many times as they wish to help support the costs of Trinity's ministries.

WE THANK OUR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Pastors: Pastor David Schoob, Pastor Cristy Schoob

Worship Assistant: Anita Bayliff

Communion Set-up: Tiffany Wilson

Communion Servers: Nate Shubat, Jill Hasenstein

Ushers: Daniel Schmidt, Jim Klatt

Vocalists: Tony Brodzeller, Cyndee Bruder, Ruthann Dorn,
Rick Gilbertson, Phil Pierce

Keyboard: April Brodzeller

Video: Cheryl Scaffidi **Audio:** Bryan Schlosser

Counters: CarlEda Skinkis, Annie Wiedmeyer

Coffee Hour: Candy Sarauer, Sue Walker

Trinity Lutheran Church is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Ho-Chunk and Potawatomi people. As such, we wish to give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home. It is our sincere desire that this acknowledgement initiates an ongoing instructive, and constructive journey toward respect, truth and healing regarding colonialism, the church community, and inclusivity for all children of the Great Spirit. We commit ourselves as God's children to pray for our indigenous siblings, to pray for God's blessings on them and for strength for them and for us as we work together for justice, dignity, respect and peace for all the diverse people of the land.

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