

### **MEDITATION PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP**

*Gracious God, out of the darkness you send a light; out of a lifeless stump you call forth a new shoot; out of the discord of our lives you proclaim a vision of new life for us and the world.*

*May your Spirit rest upon us, that the hope which you inspire will be lived out in our lives. We pray this in the name of the One whose birth we prepare to celebrate, Jesus, the light and life of the world. Amen.*

### **GATHERING MUSIC**

### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **TRINITY WELCOME**

### **THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY**

*We are all meant to be mothers of God, for God is always needing to be born.*

**Meister Eckhart**

*The coming of the Lord is the coming of the new, not the renewal of the old.*

*Our Advent is the celebration of this hope.*

**Thomas Merton**

(American Trappist monk, writer, theologian, mystic, poet, social activist and scholar of comparative religion)

### **CALL TO WORSHIP (stand)**

One: Shout for joy!

**All: The Savior is coming.**

One: Sing with gladness!

**All: Our darkness shall be turned to light.**

One: Let every heart prepare a space.

**All: Let every home make ready.**

One: Let all the hungry be filled.

**All: Let all the homeless be sheltered.**

One: For a new day is dawning.

**All: The world is being made new.**

One: The Savior is coming.

**All: Sing with joy!**

## PRAISE SONG

### "Light Shines in the Darkness"

Oh the light shines in the dark - ness and the  
light will not be o - ver - come. In this world *Last time end*  
bro - ken and scat - tered the light will not be o - ver - come.  
As our lives are turn - ing and our  
Tears through - out cre - a - tion, torn a -  
hearts are yearn - ing through the days of hurt - ing,  
part re - la - tions, wounds a - cross the na - tions,  
2  
deep in the night still the flame burns bright.  
hope may seem gone still the flame burns on.

## THE CONFESSION

**All:** How long, O God, 'til we see your face? How long 'til refugees can go home in peace? How long 'til drive-bys, accidental shootings and gang violence leave our neighborhoods? How long must people be discriminated against because of the color of their skin, their accent, their age, their sexual orientation, their handicap, their gender, their appearance?

O God, we long for your coming, yet fear the changes you may require. Remind us, God, that sweet baby Jesus grew up and called us to new lives of compassion and justice. Shout in the midst of packages and parties that you come to free us from sin and make us new. Make us ready for Christmas. Walk with us this Advent. Amen.

## CONFESSION RESPONSE "If God Were Born Among Us"



1. If God were born a - mong us, a strang - er full of need,  
 2. Fear not, the an - gel tells us, yet we still live in fear  
 3. The hurt - ing world we live in calls for our love and care

would we see God as ho - ly or one more mouth to feed?  
 of dif - f'rence that di - vides us, of those out - side our sphere.  
 and guid - ance from God's Spir - it to teach us how to share.

If God were born a - mong us in some in - dif - f'rent place,  
 The o - ver - crowd - ed lodg - ings e - voke our year - ly scorn,  
 The love of God can change us, trans - form - ing us by grace

would we pro - vide a ref - uge? Would God find wel - come space?  
 but would we find the room now if God were new - ly born?  
 to wel - come each new stran - ger and see in them God's face.

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH "Messiah"



Some - one's shout - ing from the des - ert.  
 Some - one's shout - ing from the ci - ty  
 Some - one's shout - ing I am brok - en

Some - one's shout - ing from the sea  
 I am young I am cold  
 Some - one's shout - ing make me whole

Some - one's shout - ing from the moun - tain  
 Some - one's shout - ing from the coun - try  
 Some - one's shout - ing come and change me

Some - one's shout - ing from the val - ley Mes - si - ah,  
 I am lone - ly I am old  
 Some - one's shout - ing save my soul.

come and be our King. Mes - si - ah,  
 3  
 come and be our King.

**THE READINGS**

**Isaiah 7:10-16**

<sup>10</sup> Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, <sup>11</sup> “Ask the LORD your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights.”

<sup>12</sup> But Ahaz said, “I will not ask; I will not put the LORD to the test.”

<sup>13</sup> Then Isaiah said, “Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of humans? Will you try the patience of my God also? <sup>14</sup> Therefore the Lord himself will give you<sup>[a]</sup> a sign: The virgin<sup>[b]</sup> will conceive and give birth to a son, and<sup>[c]</sup> will call him Immanuel.<sup>[d]</sup> <sup>15</sup> He will be eating curds and honey when he knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, <sup>16</sup> for before the boy knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, the land of the two kings you dread will be laid waste.

**Psalms 80: 1-7, 17-19**

- <sup>1</sup> Hear us, Shepherd of Israel,  
you who lead Joseph like a flock.  
You who sit enthroned between the cherubim,  
shine forth <sup>2</sup> before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh.  
Awaken your might;  
come and save us.
- <sup>3</sup> Restore us, O God;  
make your face shine on us,  
that we may be saved.
- <sup>4</sup> How long, LORD God Almighty,  
will your anger smolder  
against the prayers of your people?
- <sup>5</sup> You have fed them with the bread of tears;  
you have made them drink tears by the bowlful.
- <sup>6</sup> You have made us an object of derision<sup>[b]</sup> to our neighbors,  
and our enemies mock us.
- <sup>7</sup> Restore us, God Almighty;  
make your face shine on us,  
that we may be saved.
- <sup>17</sup> Let your hand rest on the man at your right hand,  
the son of man you have raised up for yourself.
- <sup>18</sup> Then we will not turn away from you;  
revive us, and we will call on your name.
- <sup>19</sup> Restore us, LORD God Almighty;  
make your face shine on us,  
that we may be saved.

## THE GOSPEL(Stand)

Matthew 1:18-25

<sup>18</sup> This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about<sup>[a]</sup>: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet<sup>[b]</sup> did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

<sup>20</sup> But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus,<sup>[c]</sup> because he will save his people from their sins.”

<sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: <sup>23</sup> “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel”

<sup>24</sup> When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. <sup>25</sup> But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

## THE MESSAGE

Pastor Robb Kosky

### THE MESSAGE RESPONSE “To Be God’s People”

1. Al - might - y Fa - ther give us a vi - sion  
2. And when we fal - ter be Thou our com - fort;  
of a dy - ing world that needs Your love and care.  
guide us as Your chil - dren that our lives may be  
We see the need, the yearn - ing for a Sav - ior,  
A bea - con in this dark - ness that sur - rounds us,  
In Je - sus' name, grant this our prayer. To be God's  
A light that oth - ers then may see.  
peo - ple in this place, \_\_\_\_\_ live His good - ness,  
share His grace, Pro - claim God's mer - cy through His  
Son, be His love to ev - 'ry - one. \_\_\_\_\_



## **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.*

## **SPECIAL MUSIC**

### **“Heaven Everywhere”**

*Paul Anderson, Wendy Johnson, Rick Gilbertson, Gaytha Hillman*

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

P: As God’s people called to love one another, let us pray for the needs of the church, the human family and all of creation.

(Petitions end: “God of mercy”; “Hear our prayer.”)

P: All these things and whatever you see that we need, grant us, O God, for the sake of Christ, who died and rose again, and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

## **THE COMMUNION SENTENCES**

One: The Lord is with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hands

**All: To receive God's blessing.**

One: Open wide your arms

**All: To receive another as a child of God.**

One: Make tender your hearts,

**All: And welcome God's forgiveness.**

One: Open up your ears;

**All: Hear the words of hope from God.**

One: Lord be born in us.

**All: Amen.**

One: On the night when he was betrayed, Jesus took unleavened bread, broke it, and gave it to his friends saying, *“Take this and eat it, this is my body.”*

In a similar manner Jesus took a cup and after blessing it and giving thanks he said, *“Drink this because this is the new covenant I am establishing to bind us together now and throughout eternity. Do this to remember me.”*

**All: Gracious God, we are thankful for these gifts of love and sacrifice and we are reminded of your love for us. In this table we find what we need for life. We find hope. We are set free to serve and love in all circumstances. Thank you for coming into our midst. Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

***Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread and 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, and 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 wafer  
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.*

*(We also have celiac friendly individually packaged wafer/wine in the first pew.)*

## Songs During Distribution

### "Come To Be Our Hope O Jesus"

1. Come to be our hope, O Je - sus, come to through the  
2. Come to build your new cre - a - tion through the  
set road your peo - ple free. From op - pres - sion, come, re -  
road of ser - vant hood; give new life to ev - 'ry  
lease us, grant us your true lib - er - ty. Come, re -  
na - tion, changing e - vil in - to good. Come and  
lease o - pen our to - mor - row those who  
suf - fer in our land. In your love we find the  
joy - ful reign so near. Take a - way all hu - man  
rea - son sor - row; still to us live hope and un - der - stand.  
give us hope a - gainst our fear.

## ***"People of Hope"***

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef, with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes, with some measures containing rests. The lyrics are written below the staff, aligned with the notes. The score includes a repeat sign at the beginning, a 'Fine' marking, a '3rd time to Coda' instruction, and a 'Coda' section at the end. The lyrics are: 'We are peo-ple of hope a-live in the mys-t'ry, grow-ing in faith, learn-ing to love. We are peo-ple of hope through-out all of his-t'ry, held by the one who will nev-er let go. We are dead in our striv-ing for wealth and for might We are what God has made us, cre-a-ted in Christ but God, rich in mer-cy, has loved us to life. We are for jus-tice and mer-cy to be our way of life. We are In the jour-ney ev-'ry day we're led by the Word, saved by grace. We are'.

We are peo-ple of hope a-live in the mys-t'ry,  
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In the jour-ney ev-'ry day we're led by the Word,  
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## “Hope House”

Let's make a ti - ny lit - tle world and call it God's world, where  
 Let's build a world where love and mer - cy grow like gar - dens, where

peo - ple don't bul - ly and our hearts are true and kind.  
 peo - ple aren't hun - gry and no - bod - y's turned a - way.

Let's make a ti - ny lit - tle house and call it Hope House, where  
 Let's build a place where we can un - der - stand each o - ther, where

peo - ple aren't greed - y and we leave our fears be - hind.  
 an - ger and pre - ju - dice can nev - er rule the day.

*Chorus*  
 A lit - tle bit of light in a world full of night. A lit - tle bit of warm  
 in a world full of storm. A pic - ture of the world we real - ly wan - na see. *Fine*  
 God is plant - ing hope a - round this world with peo - ple like you and me!

1. Oh, Let's build a place where the  
 door is al - ways o - pen, where friend - ship and for - give - ness is sim - ply what we do.  
 Let's build a place where we learn the art of lov - ing. We  
 love our friends and neigh - bors and love the stran - ger, too.

## ***THE BLESSING (stand)***

### ***THE SENDING OUT***

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

**ALL: Amen!**

## ***THE SENDING SONG***

### ***Joy to the World (Advent)***

Joy to the World the Lord will come! The earth awaits its King!  
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, for He will reign; Let all their songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sin and sorrow grow Nor thorns infest the ground  
He'll come to make his blessings flow Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found, Far as, far as the curse is found.

He'll rule the world with truth and grace And make the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness And wonders of his love  
And wonders of his love, And wonders, wonders of his love

### ***THE DISMISSAL***

Leader: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **WE THANK OUR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

**Pastor:** Pastor Robb Kosky

**Worship Assistant:** Lexi George

**Reader:** Jill Hasenstein

**Ushers:** Nate Kenworthy, Denise Kenworthy

**Communion set-up:** Cindy Tikusis

**Communion Servers:** Nate Shubat, Sandy Poenitsch,  
Cindy Tikusis

**Vocalists:** Paul Anderson, Rick Gilbertson,  
Gaytha Hillman, Wendy Johnson

**Keyboard:** Hazel Griffin

**Video:** Cheryl Scaffidi **Audio:** Sue Gilbertson

**Coffee Hour Baker/Host:** Hazel Griffin, Cyndee Bruder

**Counters:** Tammy Nelson, Cyndee Bruder

*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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