# TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH **Created to Praise**

West Bend, WI 4th Sunday of Advent- December 21, 2025 262-334-2125

### 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** 

140 N 7<sup>th</sup> Ave

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!

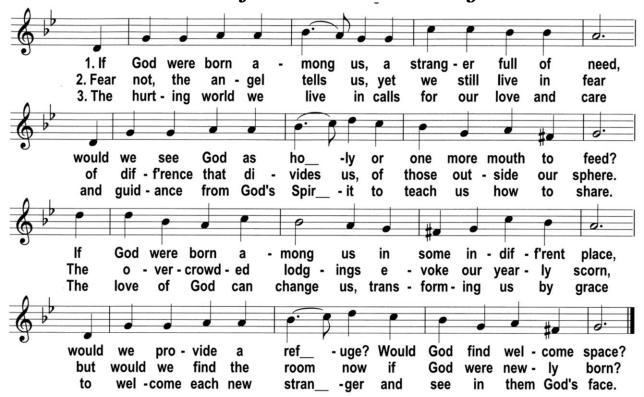


#### THE CONFESSION

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"



### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH "Messiah"



### 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."

12 But Ahaz said, "I will not ask; I will not put the LORD to the test."

¹³ 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? ¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you[a] a sign: The virgin[b] will conceive and give birth to a son, and [c] will call him Immanuel. [d] ¹⁵ He will be eating curds and honey when he knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, ¹⁶ 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.

Psalm 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.

3 Restore us, O God; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved.

4 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 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.
- 19 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



### ■無禁値 *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.

#### "Heaven Everywhere" SPECIAL MUSIC

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

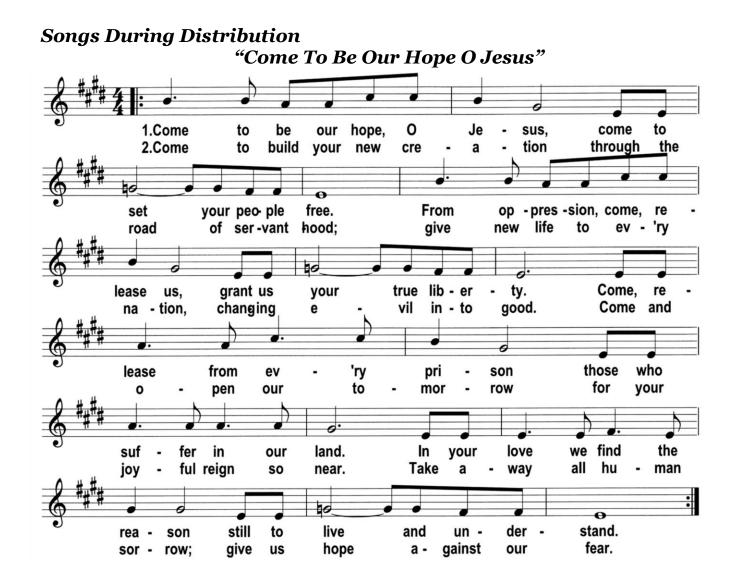
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, and the power, and the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

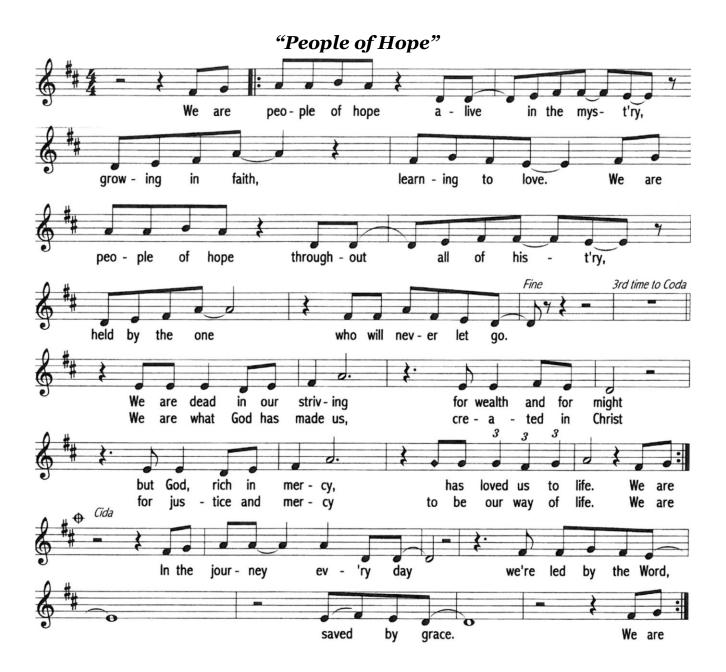
### THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE FAMILY MEAL. (Sit)

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.)







### **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.

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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