

Trinity Church

Staten Island



1st Sunday of Christmas
December 29, 2024

ABOUT TRINITY

Trinity Lutheran Church is a diverse Christian community committed to sharing and teaching the Word of God. We welcome all people and serve to provide Christian education, witness and outreach. In response to God's grace, we are called to support and advocate for our dynamic community, care for others, worship God, develop leaders in our faith, and steward the gifts we have been given by God.

Our Values:

Love + Community + Inclusion + Service + Creativity + Faithfulness + Learning

THEMES OF OUR WORSHIP TODAY

On the first Sunday of Christmas we find the boy Samuel and the boy Jesus, both in the temple, both growing in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and humankind. We too have returned to the house of God "to sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God," who has gifted us with a savior. As the festival continues, "let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts." It is Christmas, still.

Please silence your cellphone before worship begins.

GATHERING

THE HOLY SPIRIT CALLS US TOGETHER

PRELUDE

Prelude on 'Irby'

Philip Moore
(b. 1943)

WELCOME

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Enjoy a moment of silence to prepare your hearts and minds to receive the Grace and Love of God poured out for you in this hour of worship.

Please stand for

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
whose steadfast love is everlasting.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.
God-with-us,

A **we confess that we have turned away
those seeking shelter,
claiming there is no room when we have plenty.
We have made power and wealth our idols,
while you show us true glory: a baby in a manger.
We have overlooked the shepherds,
expecting good news in prettier packaging.
Too often, we have valued violence
instead of your peace.
Turn us from our ways to your ways.
Grant us the grace to begin again.
Free us from all that keeps us bound,
and forgive our sin,
through Jesus Christ, who gives himself for us. Amen.**

P Hear the good news and rejoice!
 You are God's chosen ones,
 holy and beloved,
 † forgiven in Christ,
 and freed to respond in joy.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN, ELW 269

1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,
 2 He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and Lord of all,
 3 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing love;
 4 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the ox - en stand - ing by,

where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed:
 and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall;
 for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove;
 we shall see him; but in heav - en, set at God's right hand on high;

Mar - y was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
 with the poor and meek and low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
 and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.
 there his chil - dren gath - er round, bright like stars, with glo - ry crowned.

Text: Cecil Francis Alexander, 1818-1895
 Music: Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805-1876

GREETING

P The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE, ELW 289

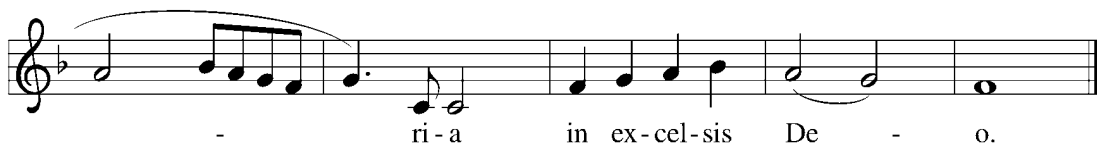
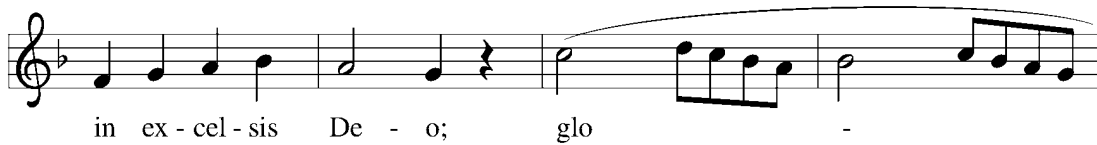
To sing in Harmony, please use a hymnal.



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.



Text: French carol; tr. H.F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864
Music: French carol; arr. Edward S. Barnes, 1887-1958

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P Let us pray.
Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

Please be seated.

WORD

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN SCRIPTURE, READING, PREACH AND SONG

FIRST READING: 1 SAMUEL 2:10-20, 26

¹⁸ Samuel was ministering before the LORD, a boy wearing a linen ephod. ¹⁹ His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. ²⁰ Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, "May the LORD repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the LORD"; and then they would return to their home.

²⁶ Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the LORD and with the people.

- A Word of God, Word of Life.
C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALMODY

Psalm 148

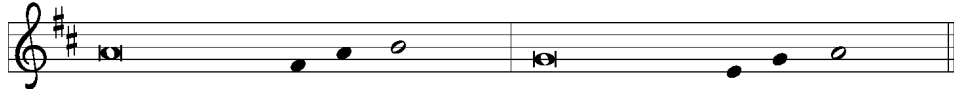
The cantor introduces the refrain, all repeat it.

Refrain



The splen - dor of the LORD is o - ver earth and heav' n.

Tone



The congregation chants all the verses.

- 1** Hallelujah! Praise the Lord | from the heavens;
praise God | in the heights.
- 2** Praise the Lord, | all you angels;
sing praise, all you | hosts of heaven.
- 3** Praise the Lord, | sun and moon;
sing praise, all you | shining stars.
- 4** Praise the Lord, heav- | en of heavens,
and you waters a- | bove the heavens.
- 5** Let them praise the name | of the Lord,
who commanded, and they | were created,
- 6** who made them stand fast forev- | er and ever,
giving them a law that shall not | pass away.
- 7** Praise the Lord | from the earth,
you sea monsters | and all deeps;
- 8** fire and hail, | snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, do- | ing God's will;
- 9** mountains | and all hills,
fruit trees | and all cedars;
- 10** wild beasts | and all cattle,
creeping things and | flying birds;
- 11** sovereigns of the earth | and all peoples,
princes and all rulers | of the world;
- 12** young | men and maidens,
old and | young together.
- 13** Let them praise the name | of the Lord,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over | earth and heaven.
- 14** The Lord has raised up strength for the people and praise for all | faithful
servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the Lord. |
Hallelujah! *Refrain*

SECOND READING: COLOSSIANS 3:12-17

¹¹ The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹² training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³ while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴ He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

A Word of God, Word of Life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand for the

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first two phrases of the acclamation, with lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!' written below. The second staff continues the melody for the next two phrases, also with lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!' written below. The music is written in a simple, accessible style suitable for a church service.

GOSPEL READING: LUKE 2:41-52

P The holy gospel according to Luke, the 2nd Chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁴¹ Now every year [Jesus'] parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover.

⁴² And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. ⁴³ When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. ⁴⁴ Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵ When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him.

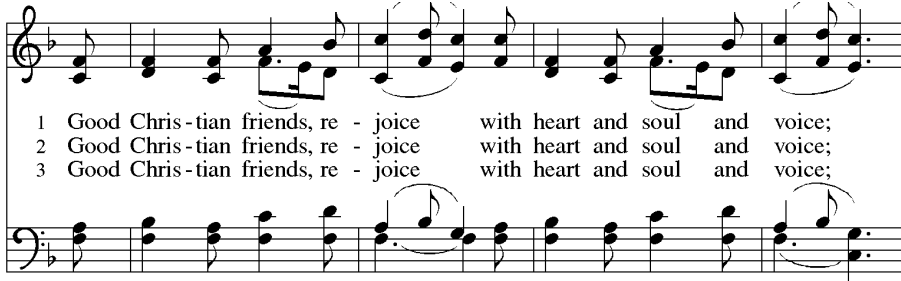
⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." ⁴⁹ He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰ But they did not understand what he said to them. ⁵¹ Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

⁵² And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

P The Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated for the
SERMON

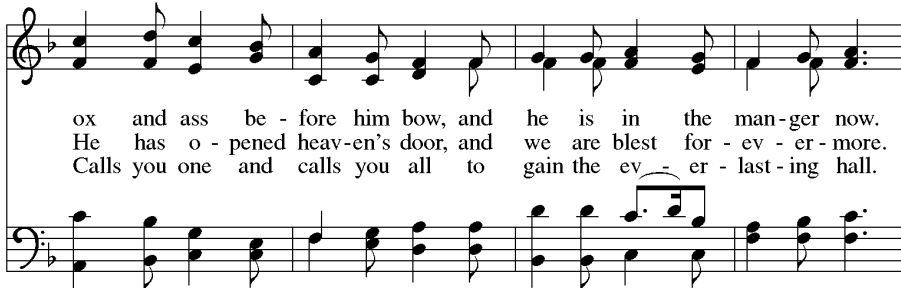
Please stand for the
HYMN, ELW 288



1 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
2 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
3 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man-ger now.
He has o - pened heav-en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866.
Music: German carol, 14th century; arr. Robert I. Pearsall, 1795-1856.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The lector ends each prayer petition by saying, "God of Grace," after which the congregation responds with "receive our prayer."

The pastor closes the intercessions with a prayer after which the congregation replies: "Amen."

PEACE

We greet one another with the peace and love of Jesus Christ.

P The peace and love of Jesus Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

You are invited to share a sign of Christ's peace and love with one another, and then be seated.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- *The Church Office is closed through January 1. It will reopen Thursday, January 2 and continue with the following schedule of open hours: Mon., Tues., and Thurs. 9am to 2pm and by appointment. The office is closed on Fridays. Office phone: 718-447-0526.*
- *The Sexton's days off are Tuesdays and Fridays.*
- *Pastor's day off is Fridays. She will be working remotely from January 6-11, available by phone/text: 929-314-6031. She resumes teaching at Wagner College Monday and Wednesday afternoons, 2:40-4:10pm beginning January 27.*
- *Mid-week Choir Rehearsal resumes Wednesday, January 1, 6:30pm. Contact Trent Whisenant at twhisenant@tlcsi.org if you are interested in joining.*
- *Sunday School resumes January 5, 9:45am-10:30am*
- *Bible Study on the 1st and 3rd Sundays resumes January 5, 12noon-1pm. Topic: The Gospel of Luke*
- *Confirmation for Youth on the 2nd Sunday continues January 12, 12noon-2:30pm.*

OFFERING

The offering collected today supports the ministries of Trinity Lutheran Church. Our inclusive congregation has special commitments to the arts, addressing hunger and poverty in our community, and Christian education. Help us bring the healing love of God into the world by donating generously.

MUSICAL ANTHEM AT THE OFFERTORY

4. Aria from Christmas Oratorio

J.S. Bach

Elisabeth Pace, alto

Bereite dich, Zion, mit zärtlichen Trieben,
Make yourself ready, Zion, with tender desires
Den Schönsten, den Liebsten bald bei dir zu sehn!
to see with you soon him who is most beautiful, most dear!
Deine Wangen
Your cheeks
Müssen heut viel schöner prangen,
must today be far more beautifully resplendent,
Eile, den Bräutigam sehnlichst zu lieben!
hasten, to love your bridegroom with the greatest longing!

Please stand for the

PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING, WOV 646, VS. 1

1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing
gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,
moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
Refrain
Oh, star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright;
west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

Text: John Henry Hopkins, Jr., 1820-1891, alt.

Music: John Henry Hopkins, Jr., 1820-1891

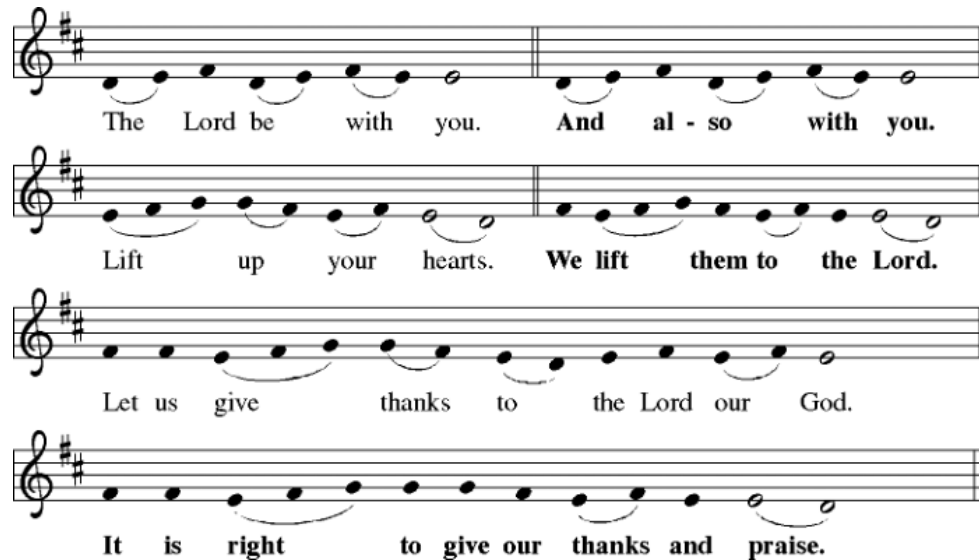
OFFERING PRAYER

- A God of heaven and earth,
from the beginning, you have called forth life,
in which you take delight.
The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy.
Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty,
that we may join the chorus of creation
to tell of your salvation from day to day.
- C **Amen.**

MEAL

GOD FEEDS US WITH THE PRESENCE OF JESUS CHRIST

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.


Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE PROPER PREFACE

- P 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 the faithful 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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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

P 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:

C **Christ has died.**
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

P 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.

C Come, Lord Jesus.

P 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.

C Come, Holy Spirit.

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

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**C 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.**

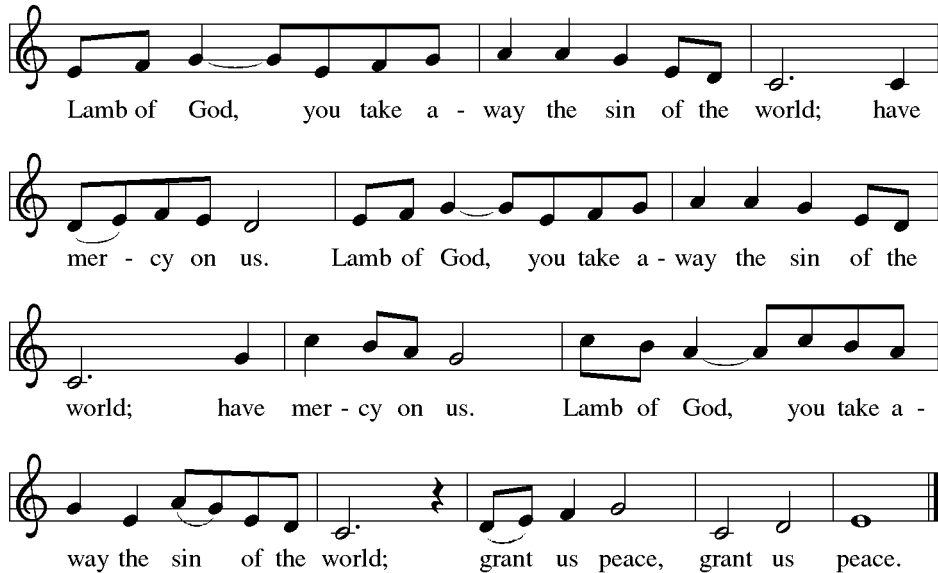
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P A child has been born for us, a Son given to us. Come, receive the gift of Jesus.

All are welcome at Jesus' table of grace! We commune today at the head of the center aisle in front of the steps to the altar. We begin with the left (stage right) side of the sanctuary. When everyone on the left (stage right) side is finished, we will begin with the people on the right (stage left) side of the sanctuary. Please come forward to receive the host from the pastor and wine or grape juice from the assistant. You may leave your used cup in the white bowls at the start of the side aisles as you return to your seats.

Please be seated.

LAMB OF GOD



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.

COMMUNION HYMN, 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 - grance 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 century

Music: *Alte catholische geistliche Kirchengesänge, Köln, 1599*; arr. Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621

Please stand for the

TABLE BLESSING

P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ ✠ strengthen us and keep us in God's grace.

C Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- A Merciful God,
we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food.
Strengthened by this goodness,
send us forth to announce your peace,
comfort the afflicted,
and share the good news of great joy.
- C **Amen.**

SENDING

GOD BLESSES US AND SENDS US IN MISSION TO THE WORLD.

BLESSING

- P The God of love,
Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,
lavish you with grace,
illumine your path,
and increase your joy,
today and always.
- C **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN, ELW 290

Refrain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!

1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born;



Refrain



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872-1925, stanzas, alt.
Music: African American spiritual

DISMISSAL

A Christ the Savior is born. Go in peace, proclaim the Good News.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Fanatasia on 'Adeste Fidelis'

David Blackwell
(b. 1961)

WORSHIP LEADERS THIS SUNDAY

<i>Preacher/Presider</i>	<i>Rev. Dr. Stephanie Jaeger</i>
<i>Assisting Minister & Lector</i>	<i>Richard Schrader</i>
<i>Altar Guild</i>	<i>Regina Pearsall</i>
<i>Director of Music & Organist</i>	<i>Trent Whisenant</i>
<i>Guest Artist</i>	<i>Elisabeth Pace, alto</i>
<i>Ushers</i>	<i>Regina Pearsall, The O'Donovan Family</i>
<i>Counters</i>	<i>Lorraine and Richard Schrader</i>
<i>Livestream Technician</i>	<i>Steven Innis</i>

PRAYER REQUESTS

FOR OUR PRAYERS ~ *Please contact us with names to be added or removed.*

Family and Friends of Richard Basso, Meah Guzman, Susan Kiesling, Matt Casey, Marjorie Lawrence, Vincent Somma, Family and Friends of Dave Jaeger, Nico Velez, Nicholas Volpe, Family and Friends of Sawyer Sherk, Reath Edwards, Steven Chase and the Chase Family, Ronald Campbell, Carmen Acosta, Elizabeth N. Beyan, Roe Regan, Kim Russell, Diane Deutsch, Sylvia Ann Scott, Judy Killian, Carmen Cognetta. Mary & Israel Montalvo, Bob Rautenstrauch, Joan Nellis, Deacon Margaret-Ann O'Donnell, Barbara Stack, George Skilbred, Jessica Desens, Migdalia Jimenez, Laura Lupo, Ruth Dowling, David Dowling, Lura Hellem, Bobbie Wood & her daughter, Elizabeth Martin, Virginia Gill & Family, Roald & Marlies Meyer, Victor Mistretta, Carol Vikse, Steven Tercovich, Laura Konczynski, May Moore, Marlin Campbell, Ka-Ka, Kashief Campbell, Dianne Bombardi, Ian Grande, Edie Piazza, Christopher Jarrett, Laura Bunnell, Tony Leonardi, John Niemiec, Steve, Sonia Nunez, Ellen Nelson, Darlene Nellis, Cynthia Marsh Crowell, Pastor Wolfgang Laudert, Jackie LaMorte, the Pennington Family, Kristine Klumbach, Maryann, Frank and Dawn Fazio, Barbara Sanders, and those who are suffering from the effects of the 9/11 attacks.

PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN OUR ARMED FORCES: Joshua Lentini, Sgt George E Turner, US Army, Sgt Brendan Jocsak, US Marines.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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trinitylutheransi.org

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Trent Whisenant, Director of Music & Organist

Priscilla Marco, Community Engagement Coordinator & Administrator

Cara Kay, Youth and Family Coordinator & Administrative Assistant

Cari Sanders, Communications Coordinator

Peyton Bloom, Tech Manager

Bill Cochran, Sexton

TRINITY CHURCH COUNCIL

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