Trinity Staten Island



Fourth Sunday of Advent December 22nd, 2024

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH'S MISSION STATEMENT

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 address the needs of our changing community, care for others, worship God, develop leaders in our faith, and manage our gifts.

TRINITY CHURCH COUNCIL

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INFORMATION FOR THOSE WORSHIPPING

To accommodate all our membership, and to provide outreach into the community, this service is being live streamed and made available on YouTube. By attending, you consent to any recording, and its release, publication, exhibition, or reproduction to be used for live streaming and/or any other publication, printed or electronic, of Trinity Lutheran Church.

PLEASE SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONES WHILE WE GATHER

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Cradle and cross are inextricably connected on the fourth Sunday of Advent. Between a lovely tribute to the little town of Bethlehem and Mary's magnificent song of praise, the letter to the Hebrews reminds us in no uncertain terms that Christ's advent is for "the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." It is the kind of tension in which the church always lives as when in holy communion—with high delight—"we proclaim the Lord's death."

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10:30 AM December 22^{ND} , 2024

GATHERING

THE HOLY SPIRIT CALLS US TOGETHER

Prelude

I wonder as I wander

arr. Gary Lanier

(1943-2022)

Cello Sonata no. 2, II. Allegro

Antonio Vivaldi

(1678-1741)

Diana Golden, cello

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

German Carol

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung! Of Jesse's lineage coming as seers of old have sung, it came, a flow'r so bright, amid the cold of winter, when half-spent was the night.

Isaiah had foretold it, the rose I have in mind; with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind. To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior, when half-spent was the night.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, alive in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon.
- C Amen.
- P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of mercy,

- We confess that we have sinned.
 We trust earthly powers and human authority alone.
 We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.
 God of might, we confess that we have sinned.
 We have turned away from our neighbors.
 We have trusted false promises.
- P God in our midst,
- C we confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us.
- P A righteous branch springs forth:
 it is Christ the Lord, our Savior,
 in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy.
 By the power of the Holy Spirit,
 receive the grace and forgiveness of God
 through + Christ Jesus,
 whose day draws near.
- C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN, ELW 265

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

Text: Basque carol; para. Serbine Baring-Gould, 1834-1924 Music: Basque carol; arr. C. Edgar Pettman, 1865-1943



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.

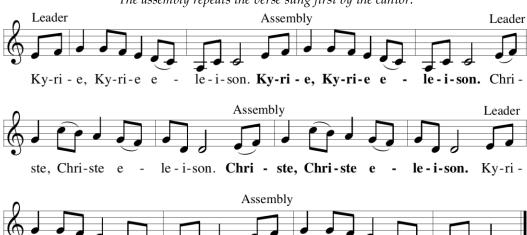
KYRIE

Kyrie

Text: traditional

Music: Daniel E. Schwandt, 2017

The assembly repeats the verse sung first by the cantor.



le - i-son. Ky-ri - e, Ky-ri - e

le - i-son.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

e, Ky-ri-e

P Let us pray.

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

A Let us pray.

Praise to you, O God, who lives with us, sharing our flesh and bones. As Mary waited and Joseph dreamed, so we dream and wait for you. Bless us and let your face shine upon us, more radiant than these candles, and more dear than all else we seek. Restore us when we fail to refuse the evil and choose the good, and banish all our fears.

We pray in the name of Emmanuel, your promised child and Our Savior.

Four candles are lit.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: MICAH 5: 2-5A

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.
Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.
And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth;
and he shall be the one of peace.

A Word of God, Word of Life.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY

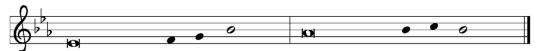
Luke 1: 46b-55

The choir sings the refrain; the congregation then repeats.

Refrain



Tone



The choir sings the non-bold verses, the congregation joins on the bold verses.

- ^{46b} My soul proclaims the greatness | of the Lord, ⁴⁷ my spirit rejoices in | God my Savior,
- ⁴⁸ for you, Lord, have looked with favor on your | lowly servant. From this day all generations will | call me blessed:
- ⁴⁹ you, the Almighty, have done great | things for me and holy | is your name.
- 50 You have mercy on | those who fear you, from generation to | generation.
- ⁵¹ You have shown strength | with your arm and scattered the proud in | their conceit,
- 52 casting down the mighty | from their thrones and lifting | up the lowly.
- ⁵³ You have filled the hungry | with good things and sent the rich | away empty.
- 54 You have come to the aid of your | servant Israel, to remember the prom- | ise of mercy,
- ⁵⁵ the promise made | to our forebears, to Abraham and his chil- | dren forever. *Refrain*

SECOND READING: Hebrews 10: 5-10

Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure.

Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)."

When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

A Word of God, Word of Life.

C Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (WHEN CHILDREN PRESENT)

Please stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION, ELW P.160

All sing the alleluia, then the Gospel verse according to the tone below and then repeat the alleluia:



I am sending my messen- | ger before you,* who will prepare your | way before you.

(Matthew 11:10)

GOSPEL READING: LUKE 1: 39-45 [46-55]

- P The holy gospel according to Luke, the 1st Chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." [

And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

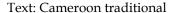
- P The Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

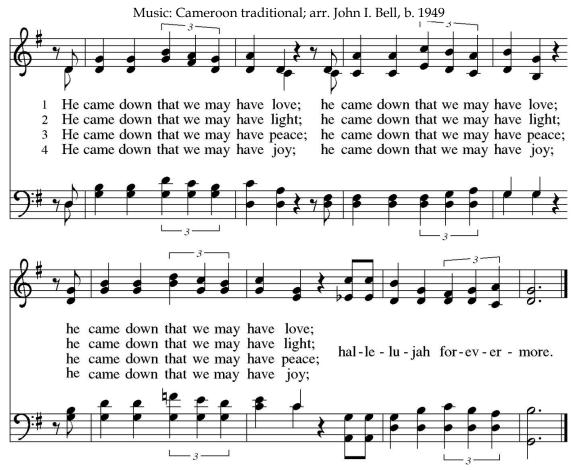
Please be seated.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY, ELW 253

He Came Down





NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,* who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The lector ends each prayer petition by saying, "God, in your mercy," 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 (SEE BACK OF BULLETIN)

MUSICAL ANTHEM AT THE OFFERTORY

And the Glory of the Lord from Messiah

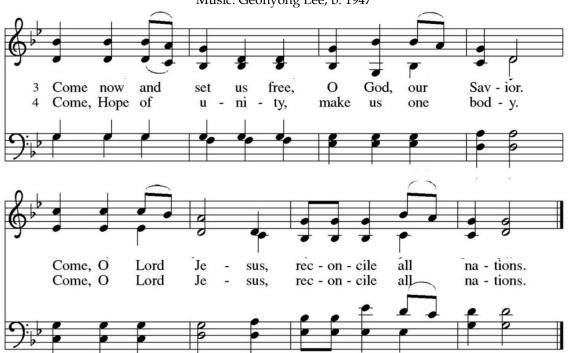
George Frederic Handel (1685-1759)

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING, ELW 247

Come Now, O Prince of Peace (Vs. 3 & 4)

Text: Geonyong Lee, b. 1947; tr. Marion Pope Music: Geonyong Lee, b. 1947



OFFERING PRAYER

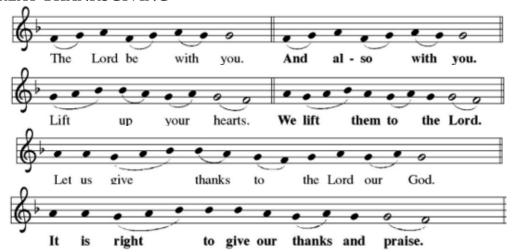
A God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

MEAL

GOD FEEDS US WITH THE PRESENCE OF JESUS CHRIST

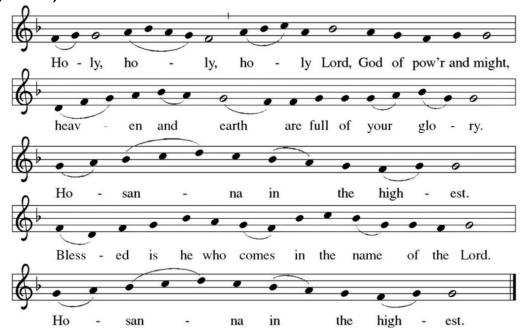
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



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.

You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. 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



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.

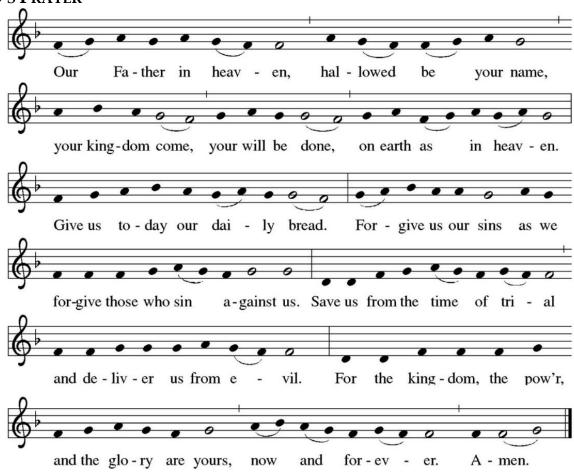
C Come, Lord Jesus.

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.

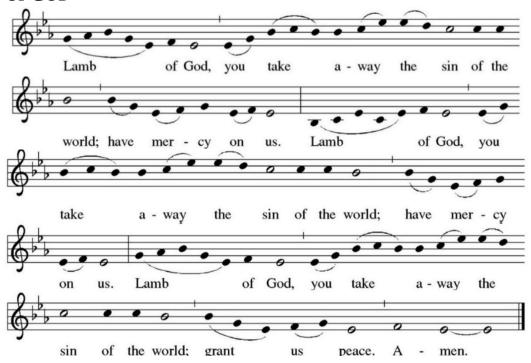
LORD'S PRAYER



INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P God feeds us with tender mercy. Come to the table.

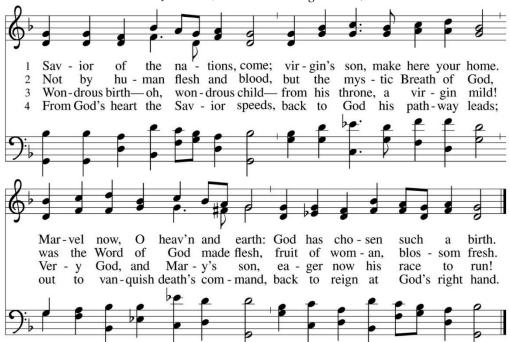
LAMB OF GOD



COMMUNION HYMN, ELW 263

Savior of the Nations, Come (vs. 1-4)

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan,340-397; Martin Luther, 1482-1546; tr. hymnal verision Music: J. Walter, *Geistliche Gesangbuchlein*, 1524



COMMUNION HYMN, ELW 262

Wait for the Lord

Text: Taize Community Music: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994



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 Generous God,

we thank you for the gift of life,

for the bread of salvation.

We thank you for coming among us,

for leading us into peace.

We thank you for showering us with mercy,

for sending us into the world.

Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us

as we feed the hungry in your name.

C Amen.

SENDING

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

CHARGE TO THE PEOPLE

P Prepare the way of the Lord; refrain from sin; work for peace; protect the vulnerable; welcome the stranger; love all people; look for the coming of Jesus, for he is near.

BLESSING

- P God of endings and beginnings,
 God in the darkness and the light,
 God, our hope for the journey,
 H bless and keep you now and forever.
- C Amen.

THE BLESSING & LIGHTING OF THE TREE

P This is that most worthy tree in the midst of paradise on which Jesus by his death overcame death for all.

The psalm is read responsively.

- A Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
- C let the sea thunder and all that is in it; Let the filled be joyful and all that is therein.
- A Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy At your coming, O lord,
- C for you come to judge the earth.
- A You will judge the world with righteousness
- C and the peoples with your truth.

(Psalm 96:11-13)

- P Let us pray.
 - Be praised, O God, for the blessings around us that point to you. Be praised, O God, for the signs of this holy season that awaken in us wonder. Praise for the steadfast green of this tree, like your love, enduring all seasons. Praise for the light that illumines our darkness, like Christ, who brings light to the world.

Join our voices with all of creation, who sing at your coming.

- C Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
- P Bless this tree, in the name of the Father, and of the Son +, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

The tree is lighted and the sending hymn begins.

SENDING HYMN, ELW 267

Joy to the World

Text: Isaac Watts,1674-1748



DISMISSAL

- A Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.
- C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Sheep May Safely Graze, BWV 208

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Diana Golden, cello

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Altar Guild	Kim Ryan & Luann Martin
Assisting Minister and Lector	Roger Wesby
Organist and Music Director	Trent Whisenant
Ushers	Pat Zulch, Joyce LaMorte
Counters	Jeanette Richardson, Karen Schiels
Preacher/Presider	Rev. Dr. Stephanie Jaeger

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY

Compline Service on the Longest Night Today | 6pm | Sanctuary
Join us as we mark the longest day of the year with chants and candlelight.

Hat, Glove and Scarf Drive

Now Through December 20 | Narthex & Online Donate warm hats, gloves and scarves as a holiday gift for Feeding with TLC participants. Place donation in bin in narthex, or scan the QR code for the Amazon shopping list.



THIS WEEK

Feeding with TLC

Every Saturday | 9:30am | Volunteer Arrival Trinity's robust Feeding Ministry welcomes volunteers every Saturday to assist in feeding and providing food to our community members. Volunteers are especially needed on the 2nd, 4th, and 5th Saturdays of the month. Contact the church office for more info.

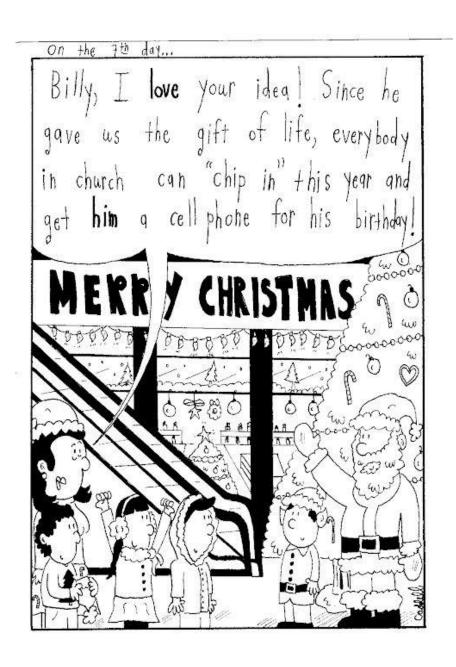


REMINDERS

The church office will be closed from December 25 through January 1st and will reopen on January 2nd.

A note from the Church Council (12/16):

Reminder that Trinity will return to hosting the 3rd Saturday in the Soup Kitchen starting in January. Please contact Luann Martin to sign up to volunteer: 917-865-8442. Also, Trinity is in the planning stages of a significant Property improvement plan for 2024 –2028. We are still looking for someone to assist with grant writing, please contact the office if you can assist.



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH 309 St. Pauls Avenue

Staten Island, NY 10304

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Rev. Dr. Stephanie Jaeger, Pastor
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