



Holy Trinity  
Lutheran Church  
Buffalo, New York

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Buffalo, New York

Sunday, December 31, 2023  
First Sunday after Christmas  
Celebrating our 145<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Holy Communion – 9:30 a.m.

*Welcome to Holy Trinity!*

*Holy Trinity recognizes that each of us is a unique creation made in the image of God. We celebrate and give thanks for the many diverse gifts that God has bestowed on us.*

*We proclaim ourselves to be an Open and Affirming congregation to all of God's creatures **welcoming into our ministry persons of every race, culture, age, gender identification, gender expression, sexual orientation, ability, and economic status.** We commit ourselves to the work of anti-racism and creating an anti-racist space through the protection against oppression internally, in institutions, interpersonally and structurally.*

*We believe that through our openness we all grow in our faith through Christ's teaching to love one another as God loves us.*

*Visitors interested in membership may talk with a Council representative at the Council desk, contact the Church office or indicate on the yellow Welcome sheet.*

*We invite you to share your story and your worship experience! Check-in and share on any of our social media platforms using #poweroftrinity.*

*You can find us on Facebook @holytrinitybuffalo, on Instagram @holytrinitybuffalo or on twitter @holytrinitybuff*

*Large print bulletins are available at the entrance ways*

## INTRODUCTION

*The psalmist calls on the natural world, celestial bodies, fire and earth, creatures, and all humanity, to praise God. The voices of Simeon and 84-year-old Anna join the chorus today, recognizing what God is doing in Jesus. Simeon's song is often sung after communion, for we have seen God's salvation in the assembled community and have held Jesus in our hands in the bread. Then, like the prophet Anna, we tell of Jesus to all who look for the healing of the world.*

## **PRELUDE**

*Variations on "Das alte Yahr"* (The Old Year Has Passed Away) Wilbur Held  
(1914-2015)

## ***RINGING OF THE TOWER BELLS***

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **For CARDIAC EMERGENCIES:**

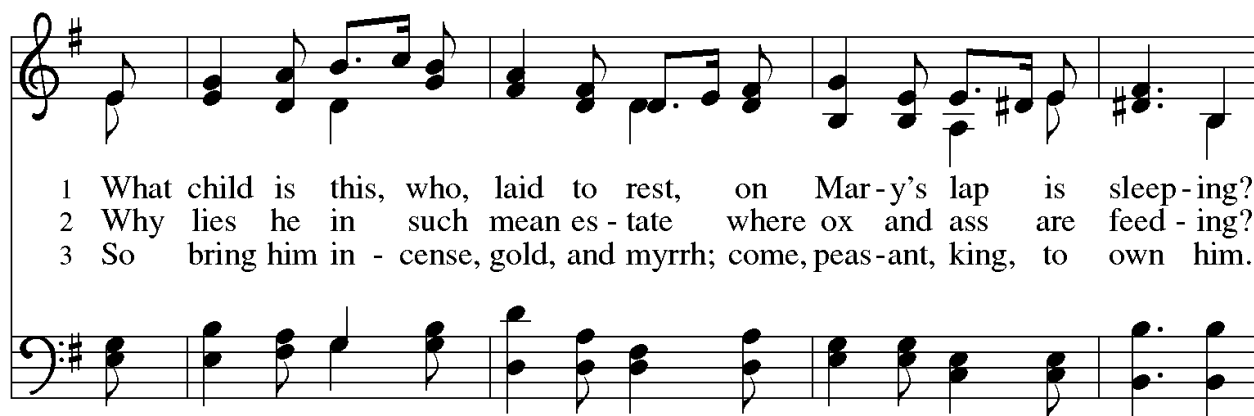
Our Automatic External Defibrillator (AED)  
is located in the Sacristy on the wall near the window.  
Look for the First Aid and AED sign near the top of the door to the Sacristy.  
Exit the Sanctuary next to the Angel Lectern.  
The Sacristy will be the first room on the left.  
Coming from other areas of our building,  
go up the stairs toward the Main Church and turn left.

*Please stand as you are able.*

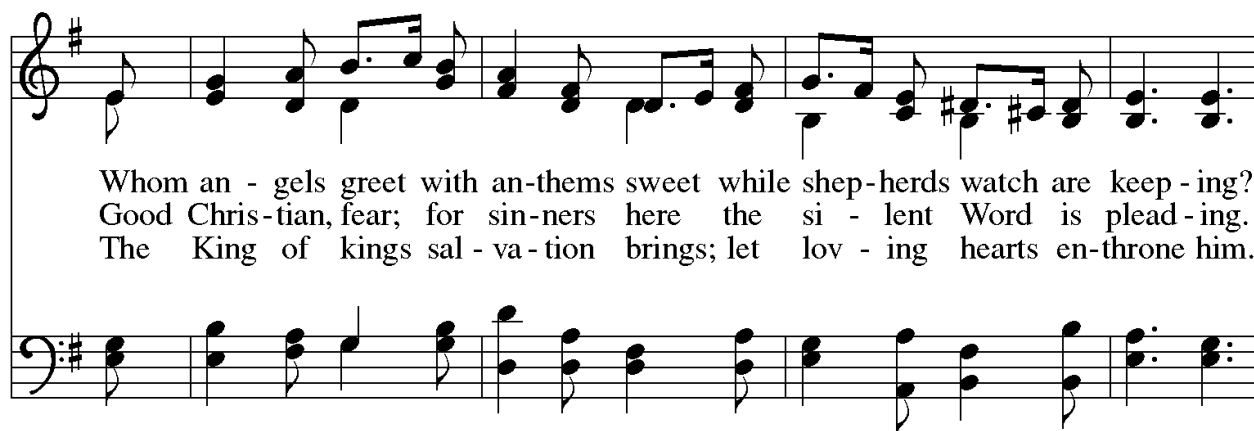
# PROCESSIONAL HYMN

## *What Child Is This* “Greensleeves”

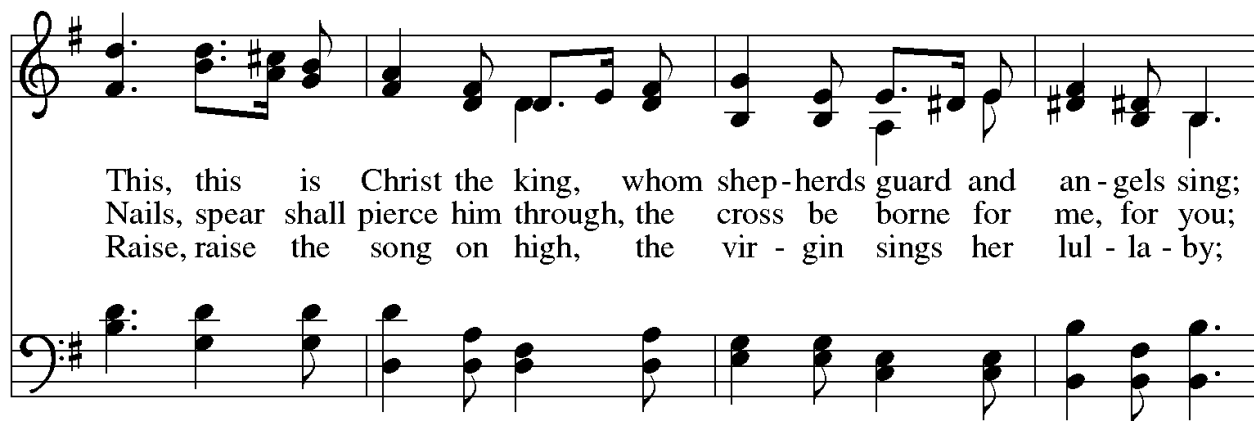
ELW 296



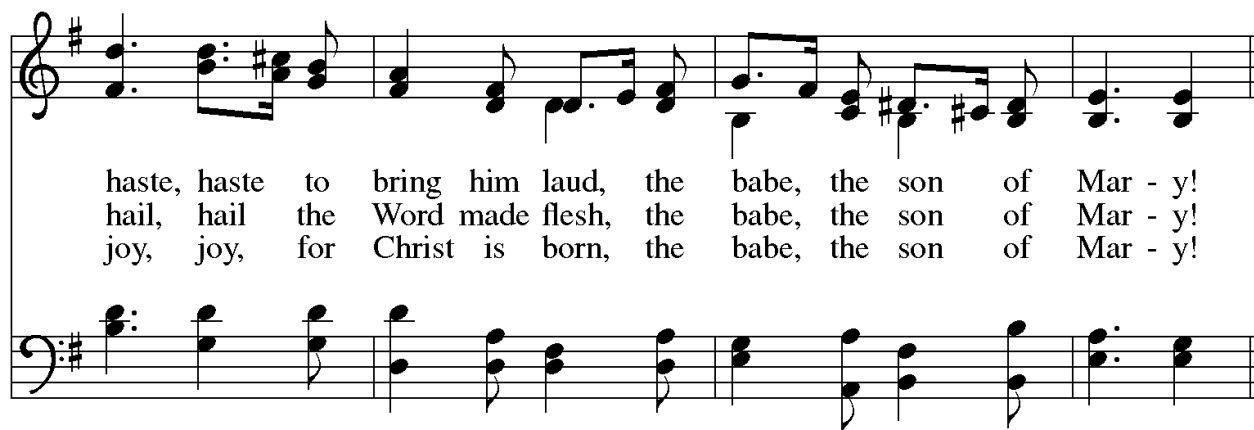
1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?  
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?  
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?  
Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;  
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
the Word made flesh,  
our life and our salvation.

**Amen.**

Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior,  
let us confess our sin.

God of life,  
**you promise good news of great joy for all people,  
and call us to be messengers of your peace.**  
**We confess that too often we hoard our joy,  
our resources, and our security.**  
**We nurture conflict and build barriers.**  
**We neglect the needs of our neighbors  
and ignore the groaning of creation.**  
**Have mercy on us.**  
**Where we are self-centered, open our hearts.**  
**Where we are reluctant, give us courage.**  
**Where we are cynical, restore our trust.**  
**Renew us with your grace  
and give us again the hope of eternal life in you.**  
**Amen.**

Hear the good news:  
We are children of God and heirs of God's promises  
through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.  
In † Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed.  
Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth  
shall know the salvation of God.  
**Amen.**

## **GREETING**

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

**And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray together.

**Almighty God, you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of the one who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## **FIRST READING: Ecclesiastes 3:1-13**

The first reading for the First Sunday of Christmas is recorded in Ecclesiastes, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Chapter.

<sup>1</sup>For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

<sup>2</sup>a time to be born, and a time to die;

a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;

<sup>3</sup>a time to kill, and a time to heal;

a time to break down, and a time to build up;

<sup>4</sup>a time to weep, and a time to laugh;

a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

<sup>5</sup>a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;

a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

<sup>6</sup>a time to seek, and a time to lose;

a time to keep, and a time to throw away;

<sup>7</sup>a time to tear, and a time to sew;  
a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;  
<sup>8</sup>a time to love, and a time to hate;  
a time for war, and a time for peace.

<sup>9</sup>What gain have the workers from their toil? <sup>10</sup>I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with. <sup>11</sup>He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. <sup>12</sup>I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live; <sup>13</sup>moreover, it is God's gift that all should eat and drink and take pleasure in all their toil.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## THE SOLO

*Gesù Bambino*

Text: Tr. Frederick H. Martens (1874-1932)

Pietro A. Yon

(1886-1943)

*Amie Adams, soprano*

When blossoms flowered 'mid the snows upon a winter night  
Was born the Child the Christmas Rose, The King of Love and Light  
The angels sang, the shepherds sang, The grateful earth rejoiced  
And at His blessed birth the stars Their exultation voiced.

O Come let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him  
O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord. (*Refrain*)

Again the heart with rapture glows to greet the holy night  
that gave the world its Christmas Rose, its king of Love and Light  
Let ev'ry voice acclaim His name, The grateful chorus swell  
From paradise to earth He came that we with Him might dwell. (*Refrain*)

## SECOND READING: Revelation 21:1-6a

The second reading for today is recorded in Revelation, the 21<sup>st</sup> Chapter.

<sup>1</sup>I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup>And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

<sup>4</sup>he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away.”

<sup>5</sup>And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” <sup>6a</sup>Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand for the Gospel, as you are able.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

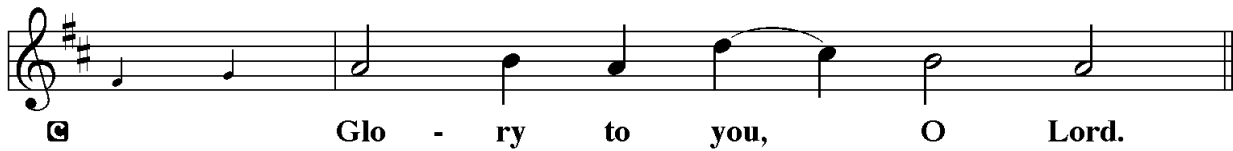


You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.



## GOSPEL: Luke 2:22-32

### The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke



<sup>22</sup>When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, [Joseph and Mary] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord <sup>23</sup>(as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), <sup>24</sup>and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

<sup>25</sup>Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. <sup>26</sup>It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. <sup>27</sup>Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, <sup>28</sup>Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

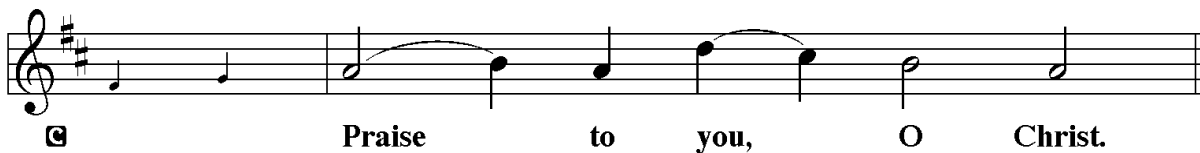
<sup>29</sup>“Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,  
according to your word;

<sup>30</sup>for my eyes have seen your salvation,

<sup>31</sup>which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

<sup>32</sup>a light for revelation to the Gentiles  
and for glory to your people Israel.”

The gospel of the Lord.



*Please be seated.*

## THE SERMON

The Rev. Richard Neal

*Please stand as you are able.*

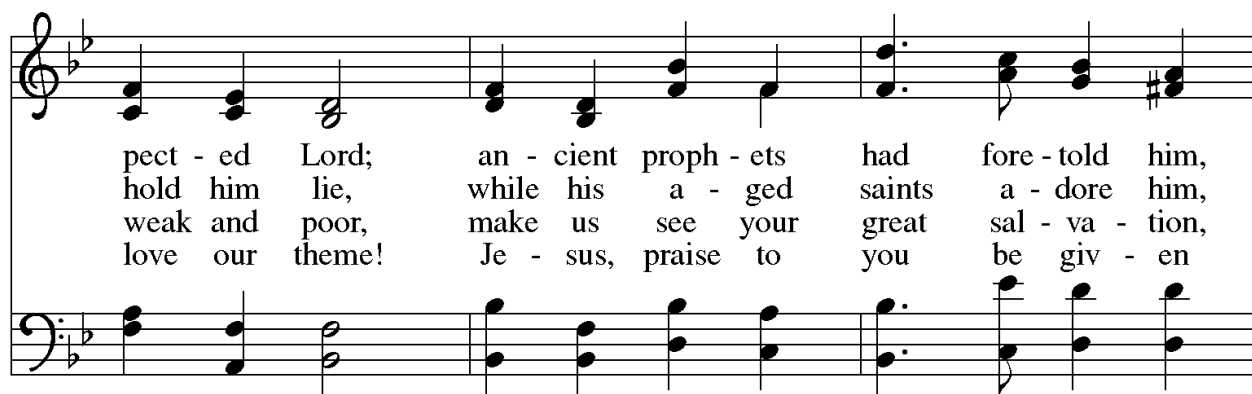
# SERMON HYMN

*In His Temple Now Behold Him* “Regent Square”

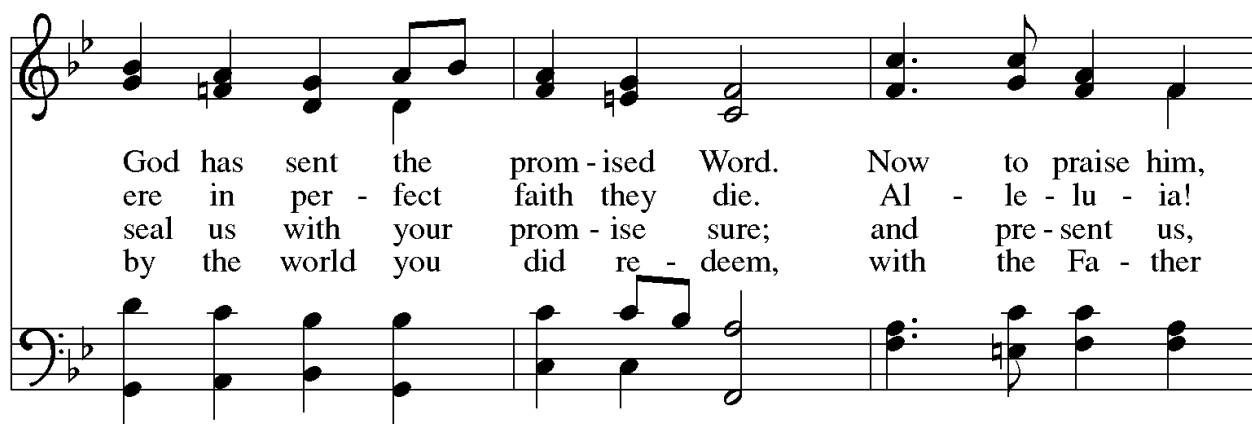
ELW 417



1 In his tem - ple now be - hold him, see the long - ex -  
2 In the arms of her who bore him, vir - gin pure, be -  
3 Je - sus, by your pre - sen - ta - tion, when they blessed you,  
4 Prince and au - thor of sal - va - tion, be your bound - less



pect - ed Lord; an - cient proph - ets had fore - told him,  
hold him lie, while his a - ged saints a - dore him,  
weak and poor, make us see your great sal - va - tion,  
love our theme! Je - sus, praise to you be giv - en



God has sent the prom - ised Word. Now to praise him,  
ere in per - fect faith they die. Al - le - lu - ia!  
seal us with your prom - ise sure; and pre - sent us,  
by the world you did re - deem, with the Fa - ther



his re - deem - ed shall break forth with one ac - cord.  
Al - le - lu - ia! Lo, the in - car - nate God Most High!  
in your glo - ry, to your Fa - ther, cleansed and pure.  
and the Spir - it God of maj - es - ty su - preme!

## **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 PASTOR AND PEOPLE**

Our Lord God, we have no idea where we are going. We don't see the road ahead of us and cannot know where it will end. And because we believe we are following your will, it doesn't follow that we are actually doing so. But we believe the desire to please you does please you, and we hope we have that desire in all we do, trusting that you will lead us by the right road, though we may know nothing about it. So help us trust you now and always with the deepest prayers of our hearts.

*A brief silence.*

You inspire faith in our hearts and call us to rejoice with our whole selves at the salvation you bring. Make our churches places of belonging for all people in the fullness of their being. Raise up the gifts and the witness of people who are neurodivergent, living with disability, or bearing invisible illness. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Your praise is sung throughout creation in all times and seasons. As the new year turns, ground us in your changeless and sustaining love. Keep us attentive to the rhythms of the cosmos and inspire us to live in harmony with all the earth. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Give hope and stamina to leaders who work tirelessly for the sake of the most vulnerable. We pray especially for organizations working on behalf of children to provide basic needs, to protect from abuse and neglect, to address trauma, and to rescue from trafficking. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Sustain all who have been waiting for salvation and wholeness. We pray especially for anyone living with cancer or chronic illness, all people who are in physical rehabilitation or addiction recovery, and those experiencing complications from long COVID and those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts... . Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Help us make this community of faith a joyful and welcome place for all ages and generations. Teach us to honor the imagination of children, the inquisitiveness of youth, the thoughtfulness of adults, and the wisdom of elders. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We give thanks for all the beloved who lived with hope and departed this life in peace. Sustain us in joy until we join them around your throne. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Abide with us, O God of mercy, and receive our prayers according to your abundant grace.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Let us share with each other a sign of Christ's peace.*

*Please be seated.*

## **THE OFFERING**

### **SOLO AT THE OFFERING**

*Holy Infant's Lullaby*

Norman Dello Joio

(1913-2008)

Amie Adams, *soprano*

O, rest you, holy infant,  
Close your eyes to the star shining bright.  
Sleep in the arms of your mother  
Who sings to you through the night.  
Al a ru, al a me.

Sleep, sleep.  
The angels sing praises in heaven  
While Mary sings lullaby loo.  
Dream of a day, gentle baby,  
When man learns to love from you.  
Al a ru, al a me.

Sleep, Holy Child.

*Please stand as you are able.*

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray together.

**God of abundance,  
receive and bless these gifts we have offered.  
Join our hearts with the song of the angels,  
and gather us at your table of celebration.  
Strengthen us to share with all the world  
the abundance of your grace upon grace,  
poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.  
Amen.**

## **OFFERTORY**

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*  
“Old Hundredth”

ELW 885

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise God above, ye heav’nly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

## **DIALOGUE**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

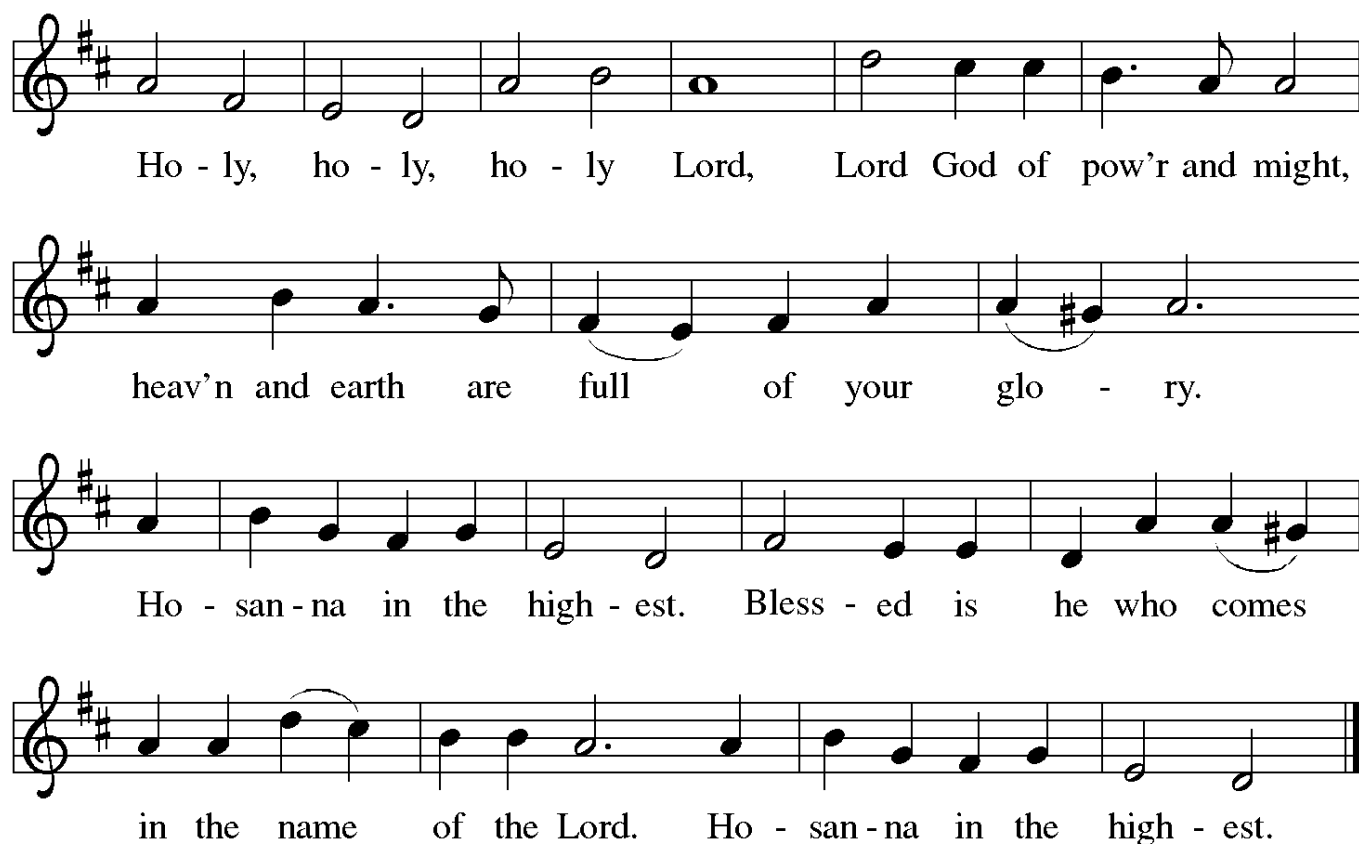
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## **PREFACE**

It is indeed right ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ,  
whom you sent in the fullness of time to be a light to the nations.  
You scatter the proud in the imagination of their hearts,  
put down the mighty from their thrones, and exalt those of low degree.  
You fill the hungry with good things and send the rich away empty.  
Your own Son came among us as a servant  
to be Emmanuel, your presence with us.  
He humbled himself in obedience to your will  
and freely accepted death on a cross.  
By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection  
you gave birth to your Church,  
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,  
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us . . .  
When the supper was over he took the cup . . .

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,  
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving  
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us, and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,  
that we may be for the world the body of Christ,  
redeemed by Christ's blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,  
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,  
until Christ comes in final victory,  
and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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

**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.**



## THE AGNUS DEI

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.

*Please be seated.*

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### *Invitation to Communion*

All are welcome to share in the sacrament of Holy Communion at Holy Trinity. Beginning with those seated closest to the altar, you are invited to come forward down the center aisle to the presiding minister. Receiving the wafer in your hand, you are invited to dip or “intinct” the wafer into the chalice. There is wine in the silver chalice and grape juice in the ceramic chalice. For those who prefer, gluten-free wafers are available by simply asking the Pastor as you are served. Portable communion cups are also available for those who are not comfortable sharing the sacrament of Holy Communion in-person. Adults or children choosing not to receive communion may come forward to receive a blessing. The Pastors will bring the sacrament to persons in the pews that are unable to come forward. Please advise an usher if you wish the pastor to do so.

Come eat and drink; there is a place for you at the table of our Lord.

*Please stand as you are able.*

The body and blood of our Sovereign and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

**Amen.**

## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray together.

**God our redeemer,  
you have fed us at this table  
with gifts of grace, truth, and life.**

**As you have gathered us in joy,  
send us forth as messengers of your peace.**

**Make us shine with the good news of your glory,  
born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

## **SENDING OF COMMUNION**

Gracious God, you took the form of a servant, offering yourself as food, comfort, and strength to a broken and hurting world. Anoint with a servant heart those who take your word and sacrament to our sisters and brothers in their homes, in prisons, or in hospitals. Grant grace, mercy, healing, and hope to those who feast on your body and blood and receive your words of new life. May we all recognize that we are one in the body of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

*We invite congregation members to share this holy meal with those who are homebound, hospitalized, or otherwise unable to join us in person. Communion elements and a simple printed liturgy are available on the altar for your use. If you take a bulletin from this morning's worship service, you will be able to easily share today's scripture and prayers with the meal.*

## **THE BENEDICTION**

God bless you and keep you,

✠ the Lord Jesus grant you grace and truth,  
and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts,  
now and forever.

**Amen.**

# RECESSIONAL HYMN

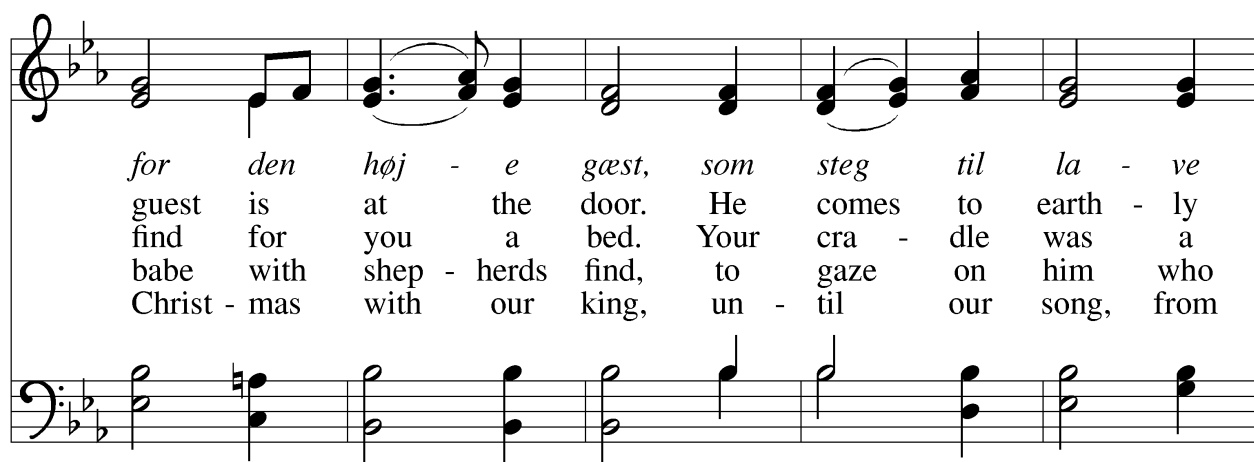
*The Bells of Christmas* “Det kimer nu til julefest”

ELW 298 (vs. 1-3, 6)



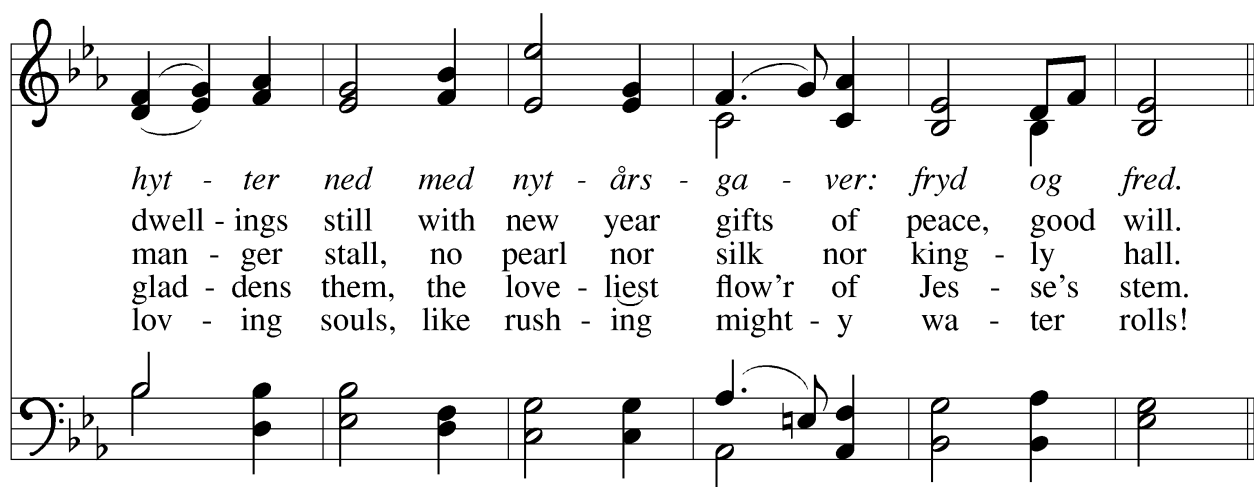
Det ki - mer nu til ju - le - fest, det ki - mer

1 The bells of Christ - mas chime once more; the heav'n - ly  
 2 This world, though wide and far out - spread, could scarce - ly  
 3 Now let us go with qui - et mind, the swad - dled  
 4 Oh, join with me, in glad - ness sing, to keep our



for den høj - e gæst, som steg til la - ve

guest is at the door. He comes to earth - ly  
 find for you a bed. Your cra - dle was a  
 babe with shep - herds find, to gaze on him who  
 Christ - mas with our king, un - til our song, from



hyt - ter ned med nyt - års - ga - ver: fryd og fred.

dwel - ings still with new year gifts of peace, good will.  
 man - ger stall, no pearl nor silk nor king - ly hall.  
 glad - dens them, the love - liest flow'r of Jes - se's stem.  
 lov - ing souls, like rush - ing might - y wa - ter rolls!

5 O patriarchs' Joy, O prophets' Song,  
 O Dayspring bright, awaited long,  
 O Son of Man, incarnate Word,  
 great David's Son, great David's Lord:

6 Come, Jesus, glorious heav'nly guest,  
 and keep your Christmas in our breast;  
 then David's harpstrings, hushed so long,  
 shall swell our jubilee of song.

## THE DISMISSAL

Christ the Savior is born!

Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

*Chorale Prelude on 'In dulci jubilo'*

Johann Michael Bach

(1648-1694)

*You are encouraged to take the bulletin  
home with you for future reference.  
Otherwise, please place them in the recycle bins  
at the entrance ways.*

*There will be no coffee hour today.*



Today's announcer and reader is Judy Kroll. Ushers and altar guilds are Gail Camilleri and Heidemarie Kunz. Acolyte is Maddie Brown.

The flowers on the altar are given:  
To the Glory of God by Claire Carmer.

Collection counters are Doug Alderdice, Peter Bergenstock and Claire Carmer.



## ***THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY***

### **SUNDAY, December 31, 2023 – First Sunday after Christmas**

9:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion (CH)

### **MONDAY, January 1, 2024** *Happy New Year*

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

### **TUESDAY, January 2, 2024**

5:30 p.m. Burrito Project at Zion (Clarence)

### **THURSDAY, January 4, 2024**

10:00 a.m. Watercolor Class (RH)

7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir (MC)

7:00 p.m. AA/AL-ANON (RH)

### **FRIDAY, January 5, 2024**

7:00 p.m. Installation and Reception for Pastor Jeff Wilson (MC)

### **SATURDAY, January 6, 2024**

10:00 a.m. AA General Service Assembly (RH)

### **SUNDAY, January 7, 2024 – Baptism of Our Lord**

8:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion (CH)

9:30 a.m. Youth Choir (MR)

9:40 a.m. Sunday Roundtable (FR)

10:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion (MC)

10:30 a.m. Sunday School (SS)

11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour (RH)

11:30 a.m. De-greening

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CH = Mansperger Chapel

FR = Fellowship Room

MR = Music Room

SC = Sacristy

CI = Crib Room

FI = Fireside Room/Library

PS = Pastor's Study

SS = Sunday School

CR = Conference Room

MC = Main Church

RH = Redeemer Hall

YR = Youth Room

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

THE CHURCH OFFICE will be closed on Monday for the New Year's Day holiday.

POINSETTIAS: The Christmas flowers are available in the Main Church. Please feel free to take one for yourself, a family member or a friend. They will be available following today's service.

THE INSTALLATION WORSHIP SERVICE for Pastor Jeff Wilson will be held at Holy Trinity on Friday, January 5, 2024 at 7pm, followed by a reception. All are welcome to join in the celebration.

DE-GREENING of the church will take place next Sunday, January 7, following the 10:30 a.m. service. All are welcome to stay and help. Lunch will be served to all who help.

THE 2024 BUDGET PRESENTATION will take place Sunday, January 14 at 9:30am in Redeemer Hall.

THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING will be held on Sunday, January 28, 2024 at the completion of the 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. services. Immediately following the 10:30 meeting, we will be holding a potluck dinner. Please bring your favorite dish to pass and join us for fun and fellowship.

ALTAR FLOWERS: Each Sunday, the beautiful vases of flowers gracing the chancel are often dedicated by members of our congregation in memory of or in honor of loved ones. Looking ahead, the following dates are available - January 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Linda Schmidt with your request for this or any other specific date during the year. She can be reached at [msmarylschmidt@gmail.com](mailto:msmarylschmidt@gmail.com) or on her cell 716-472-4194. Vases are currently \$50.00 each.



TRANSITION CONTINUES ON JANUARY 13, AND IT'S BIGGER THAN YOU THINK! — Our transition season at Holy Trinity was not complete when Pastor Jeff arrived in November. When God said to Israel, “I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?” (Isa. 43:19), there was more on the horizon than a new administration. The world had changed, and so must Israel’s way of life. They would rebuild upon ancient foundations, but the building would have a new look for a new day.

The same is true for us at Holy Trinity. The foundation upon which we have built is solid and is to be celebrated. The details of the life we build on that foundation will change as we respond in new ways to a new and different world. And as our transition progresses toward the “new thing” God is doing, it’s important that all of you have a hand and equal share in shaping the transition.

On Saturday, January 13, we will begin a series of transition events designed to celebrate our foundation and shape our future ministries as Pastor Rich leads us in “Celebrating the Holy Trinity Story.” We will recall the rich history of the congregation from as far back as our memory goes to this day. What have been our high points? Our lows? Our stabilizing in-betweens? What have been our oases of shelter and renewal? What have been our desert or wilderness experiences? Where have we experienced God sustaining us with manna and leading us to new places?

Make plans now to join Pastor Jeff and the Church Council in Redeemer Hall on Saturday, January 13, from 9:00 a.m. to noon, as Pastor Rich leads us in “Celebrating the Holy Trinity Story.” Please call the church office by Wednesday, January 10 to make your reservation.



## **HOLY TRINITY LEADERSHIP**

### **Congregational Council**

Jennifer Yap, *President*

Kathy Crissey, *Vice-President*

Fred Howard, *Treasurer*

Linda Horton, *Secretary*

Paul Bauchle, Matthew Brown, Gail Camilleri,  
Christopher Huber, Karen Kolb, Pat Lonergan,  
Raúl Saona and Elizabeth Vihnanek

### **Staff Contacts for Programs and Services**

Kristen Pomietlarz, *Organist* ~ Justin Pomietlarz, *Choirmaster*

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Linda Lipczynski, *Office Manager*

Carol Littlefield, *Parish Accountant*

John Busch, *Director of Buildings and Grounds*

Andrew Kraus, *Incoming Director of Buildings and Grounds*

Charles Ryniec, *Steward of Buildings and Grounds*

Erin Alexander, *Youth Choir Director*

[youthchoir@holytrinitybuffalo.org](mailto:youthchoir@holytrinitybuffalo.org)

The Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Wilson, *Lead Pastor*

[pastorwilson@holytrinitybuffalo.org](mailto:pastorwilson@holytrinitybuffalo.org)

The Rev. Richard Neal, *Pastor for Parish and Spiritual Development*

[richneal@together.net](mailto:richneal@together.net)

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