Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

8:30 & 11:00 AM Worship Service • December 5, 2021 Second Sunday of Advent • ELW Setting 5



Forerunners and messengers advance the advent of our God. While John the baptizer's voice in the wilderness may be the principal focus of the day, Malachi's prophecy could as easily herald the coming Christ as forerunner of the Lord of hosts. Finally all the baptized are called to participate in the sharing of the gospel. In so doing we prepare the way for the coming of Jesus and assist all people in capturing a vision of the "salvation of God."

Welcome members and guests to our worship service today. If you are visiting, we encourage you to sign the guest register located in the narthex. Please include your home address, email address and phone number. In each pew, there is a card that you can fill out if you wish to have a consult with the pastor and/or leave us more information about you. Worship times on Sunday mornings are 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

The nursery is available, however since there are no attendants at this time. Feel free to use it as needed. Trinity offers an induction loop for the benefit of hearing impaired worshippers. To use, please switch your hearing aid to "T." If you are unsure if your hearing aid is compatible, please contact your audiologist. Enlarged print sermon copies are available for the benefit of sight or hearing impaired worshippers. They can be found in the bulletin rack just outside the sacristy kitchen, closest to the wheelchair ramp exit door.

Enlarged print sermon copies are available for the benefit of sight or hearing impaired worshippers. They can be found in the narthex on the table.



The Reverend Tina Melusky, Pastor

Pastor Melusky's office hours:

Monday: 9 - 2; Tuesday: 9 - 10:30, 11:30 - 12:15

Wednesday 9:30 - 12; Thursday 9 - 12

(Times are occasionally flexible with monthly meetings,

but feel free to call for an appointment or drop in)

Geoffrey Bell, Director of Music Ministries

Congregation of Trinity Lutheran, Ministers of the Word 6812 River Road, Newport News, VA 23607

Church office: (757) 245-7861; Pastor's cell: (734) 239-4013

www.trinitylutheran-nn.com

Trinity Lutheran is a partner church with Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center, THRIVE Peninsula and LINK

Link to Trinity Lutheran School website: https://trinitynn.com/

Cover image found online at: liturgytools.net

Carillon Call to Worship

Prelude

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

arr. Aaron Shows

Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Readers

8:30 - The Harry family and 11:00 - The Hill Family

Blessed are you, God of hope, for you promise to bring forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse who will bring justice to the poor, who will deliver the needy and crush the oppressor, who will stand as a signal of hope for all people.

As we light these candles, turn our wills to bear the fruit of repentance, transform our hearts to live in justice and harmony with one another, and fix our eyes on the root of Jesse, Jesus Christ, the hope of all nations.

O people of hope, come,

let us rejoice in the faithfulness of the Lord. Amen.

Hymn

Christ, Be Our Light (v. 1)

ELW 715



Gathering

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who alone does wonders, who lifts up the lowly, who fills the hungry with good things. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God for whom we wait,

in the presence of one another,
we confess our sin before you.
We fail in believing that your good news is for us.
We falter in our call to tend your creation.
We find our sense of self in material wealth.
We fear those different from ourselves.
We forget that we are your children
and turn away from your love.
Forgive us, Blessed One,
and assure us again of your saving grace.
Amen.

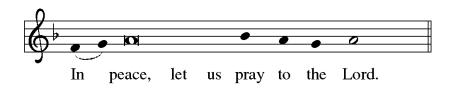
God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you! Through the power of the Holy Spirit, + your sins are forgiven. You are children of the Most High, inheritors of the eternal promise and recipients of divine mercy. God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace. **Amen.**

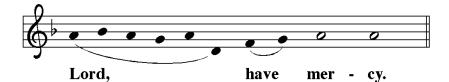


Greeting

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.**

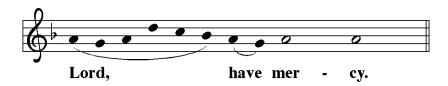
Kyrie (sung at 11:00 only)

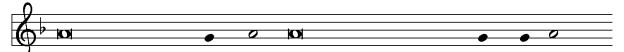






For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-va-tion, let us pray to the Lord.





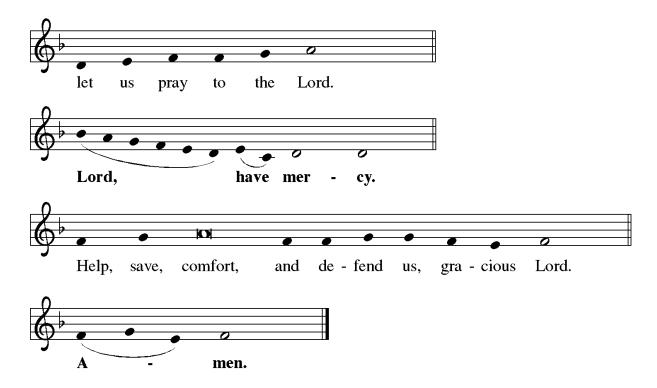
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,







For this ho-ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor-ship and praise,



Prayer of the Day

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

First Reading: Malachi 3:1-4

God announces a covenant with Israel. A messenger like Malachi (his name means "my messenger") will prepare the way for the coming of the Lord by purifying and refining God's people, as silver and gold are refined.

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

Psalmody: Luke 1:68-79 (8:30 read responsively; 11:00 sung responsively)



Blessed are you, Lord, the | God of Israel, you have come to your people and | set them free.

You have raised up for us a | mighty Savior, born of the house of your | servant David.

Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us | from our enemies, from the hands of | all who hate us,

to show mercy | to our forebears, and to remember your | holy covenant.

This was the oath you swore to our | father Abraham: to set us free from the hands of our | enemies,

free to worship you | without fear,

holy and righteous before you, all the days | of our life.

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of | the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to pre- | pare the way,

to give God's people knowledge | of salvation by the forgiveness | of their sins.

In the tender compassion | of our God the dawn from on high shall | break upon us,

to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shad- | ow of death, and to guide our feet into the | way of peace.

Second Reading: Philippians 1:3-11

The apostle Paul was the pastor of many new churches. He writes in this letter about his joy to be in partnership with the Christians of Philippi. Listen to how tender-hearted Paul, sometimes a stern preacher, is with his friends as he encourages them to grow in love and knowledge.

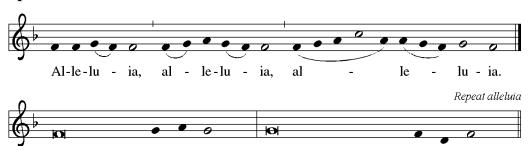
I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having

produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands.

Gospel Acclamation



Prepare the way | of the Lord.* All flesh shall see the salva- | tion of God. (Luke 3:4-6)

Gospel Lesson: Luke 3:1-6

John the Baptist is a herald of Jesus, whose way is prepared by "repentance for the forgiveness of sins." As we hear the careful record of human leaders, we sense the spectrum of political and religious authority that will be challenged by this coming Lord.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 3rd chapter. Glory to you, O, Lord.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord,

make his paths straight.

Every valley shall be filled,

and every mountain and hill shall be made low,

and the crooked shall be made straight,

and the rough ways made smooth;

and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

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

Sermon Pastor Tina

The assembly stands.

Hymn of the Day

There's a Voice in the Wilderness

ELW 255



Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilete

suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;

he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. And also with you.

The assembly is seated.

Receiving of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Anthem (11:00 a.m. only)

Every Valley

Victor C. Johnson

Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill made low; the crooked made straight and the rough places plain.

Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together. Then the wolf will dwell with the lamb; and the leopard will lie down with the goat.

The calf and the lion will live together, and a little child will lead them; and this child will be peace.

Every valley shall be exalted.

Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.



dar-nos li-ber-tad. cla - ma jus - ti - cia y bus - ca la ver-dad. God's truth and jus-tice set ev - 'ry - bod - y free. stores hope and cour-age to chil - dren of this earth. ev - 'ry gate-way, in haste, come out in haste! is with us, and sus

ev-er sets us free.

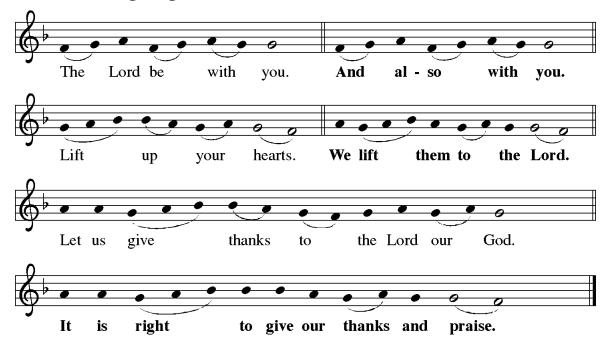
Offertory Prayer

God of our waiting and watching,

we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of all your people. Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal, through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace. Amen.

Meal

The Great Thanksgiving

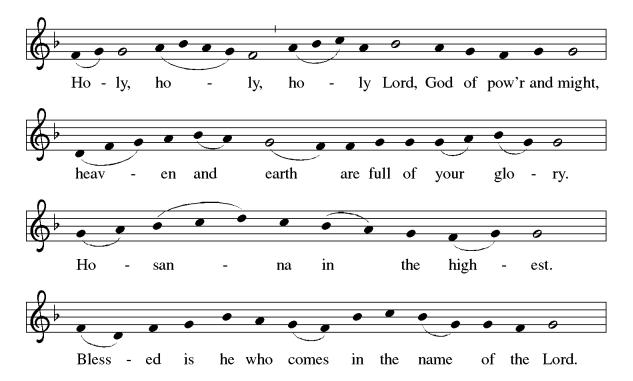


Proper Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise . . .

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus





Thanksgiving at the Table

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:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

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.

Come, Lord Jesus.

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. Come, Holy Spirit.

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

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

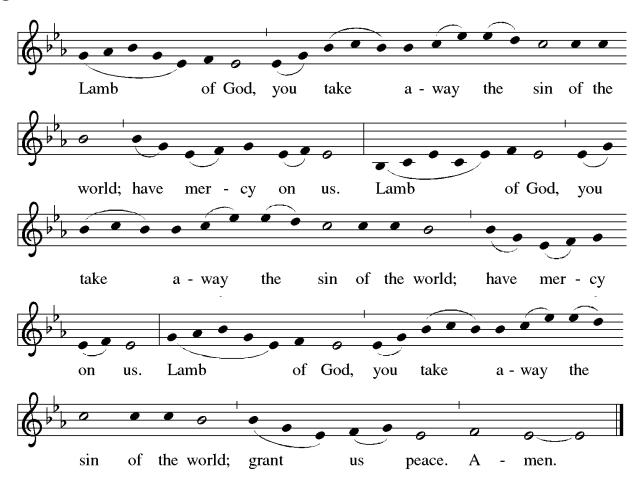
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

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.

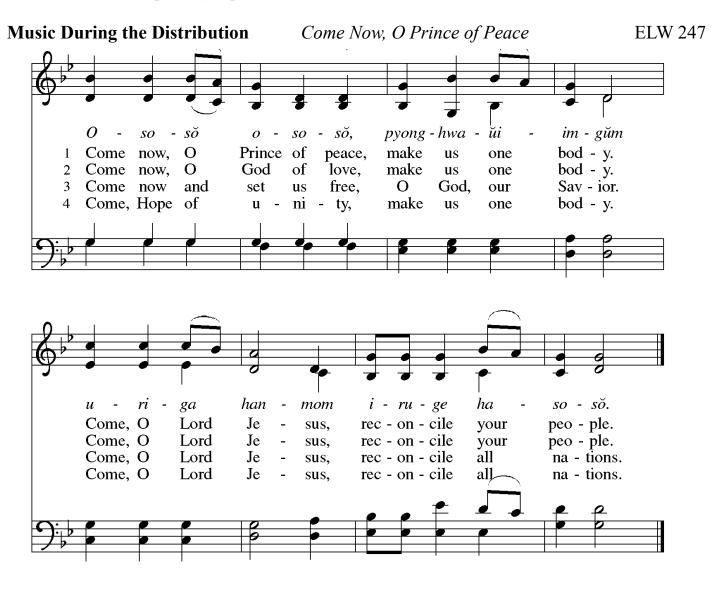
The assembly is seated.

Agnus Dei



Communion

There are two options for communion, either in the pew or at the rail. Ushers will dismiss pews one pew per side at a time. Those on the lectern side will only proceed to the lectern side of the altar and the pews on the pulpit side to the pulpit side of the altar. Bread will be precut and distributed by the pastor. Gluten free wafers will be available in the white dish, as usual. Wine will be prefilled in the trays with proper spacing of the cups. There will be a few cups of grape juice in the center. Trash cans will be positioned outside both doors to dispose of cups.



Sending

The assembly stands.

Table Blessing

Now may the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

A

men.

will be

for - ev - er.

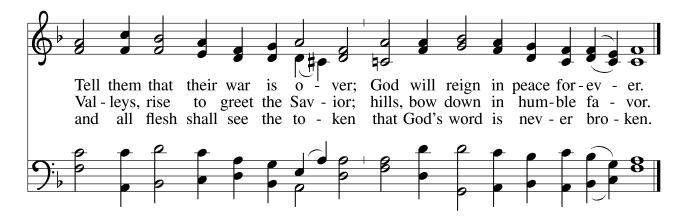
Post Communion Prayer

Most High God, you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest. **Amen.**

Blessing

The God of hope, fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus for whom we wait. **Amen.**





Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is near.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Trumpet Tune on Prepare the Royal Highway

Robert A. Hobby



Church Office Hours: Mondays through Thursdays, 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

The Team Foundation: Thanks to all who turned in suggestions for The Team Foundation funds. Decisions on those suggestions will be made soon!

New information regarding FLOWERS: In order to place an order for flowers to include an announcement in the bulletin, please contact the church office and pay for your flowers in advance. This allows us enough time to contact the florist since we do not do flowers every week.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE TRINITY EVENTS...

Tuesday Morning Bible Study: The next bible study will be on Tuesday, December 7 at 10:30 a.m., both virtually and in person. Please note the change in time!!!!

Advent Thursdays: Please join us!!! The worship theme for Advent Thursdays will be "Holy Darkness" which will be a meditative service around creativity and prayer. The services will be held by **Zoom only at 6:30 p.m.** each of these evenings. Here is the schedule:

Thursday, December 9: Darkness is Beautiful

Thursday, December 16: Darkness Holds Promise

Thursday, December 23: Darkness Holds God

Decorating the Sanctuary: We will be greening the church NEXT Sunday, December 12, after the 11:00 worship service. All are welcome to come to help. Many hands are needed to decorate. The youth will be decorating the Christmas trees with Chrismons.

Blue Christmas service: A Blue Christmas Service will be held on Monday, December 13 at 6:30 p.m. You have the choice to come in person to worship or follow virtually on Facebook Livestream. This service is designed for all who suffer from loss or any other situation where the comfort from the words of this service would be particularly beneficial.

Manna Bags: The first batch of Manna Bags are complete. We are still collecting items and we still need items to complete quite a few more bags. You can now pick up some Manna bags to hand out to those in need, if you so choose. They are located at in the narthex and at the wheelchair ramp door as you exit on Sunday morning. If you are not able to attend service, but do wish to participate in this project, please let the church office know and we will make necessary arrangements. Here are the items we're still collecting:

Mini Water Bottles Applesauce Granola Bars

Individual Boxes of Raisins Mini hand sanitizers Gallon Sized Ziploc Bags

Edmarc Holiday Baskets: We are once again able to help fill 10 Christmas baskets with food for families through Edmarc. You can help in two ways. You can donate money for us to buy a turkey or ham for a family by dropping a check in the offering plate making sure that you note in the memo line that it is for Edmarc. You can also visit our Christmas Tree located in the narthex and choose a few ornaments off of the tree. Each ornament lists a few food donation items that we need. Take one ornament or take a few! All donations are needed by Sunday, December 12. Please drop off your food items in the parlor on the marked table. Thank you in advance for all your assistance with helping us to feed our neighbors.

YOUTH NEWS!

Decorating the Church Christmas Trees: After the 11 AM service on December 12, the youth group will be helping to "green" the church by Decorating the Christmas trees with our beautiful Chrismons. Youth should meet Kathy Stevens and Pastor Tina after church to help decorate. Parents are welcome to help as well. Youth should be done with this project by around 1:30 p.m.. Please contact Kathy Stevens or Pastor Tina if you have questions about this event.

Caroling, Homebound Gifts, Painting, and Christmas Party: On Sunday, December 19, the youth group will meet following the 11 AM service and go out to lunch. We will then return to the church to work on painting our blocks in the youth room and gathering what we need for our homebound gifts. We will head out to start Christmas caroling to our Homebound members' homes around 4 PM ending our travel around the city at the Rummel house for our annual Christmas party. What will you need that day? Money for a fast food lunch, a mask, your beautiful singing voice, and a side item or dessert to share at the Christmas party. Pizza will be provided for dinner. Please see Kelly Rummel if you have any

questions about this event.

Winter Celebration: Attention all 9th -12th grade youth, we are going back to Eagle Eyrie! The annual Winter Celebration faith formation event held for high school youth will occur January 21 -23 in Lynchburg VA. There are no paper forms this year. Please go online through the link on the Youth Group Facebook page and register for this event. Once you have filled out the Google Doc, you will pay for the event through an online payment system. Cost for the event is \$150; if you need assistance with this cost please speak to Kelly Rummel or Pastor Tina. Registration is due by December 13. Please note, once you are registered, you must send a copy of your COVID vaccination card to Dave Delaney at delaney@vasynod.org. All participants must be fully vaccinated before the start of the event. If you cannot attend in person, and you would like to participate online, follow the same process for registration, and the fee is only \$35. Once registered, make sure that you go online and let Kelly Rummel know via the Facebook page that you can attend and if you will be going virtually or in person. Please speak with Kelly Rummel if you have any questions.

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS...

USAF Heritage of America Band Concert: Need a holiday pick me up? The USAF Heritage of America Band is providing the community with a free concert on Monday, December 6 at 6:30 p.m. and is being held at First Baptist Church of Newport News, 12716 Warwick Blvd., NN, VA, 23606. The show is open to the public. Tickets can be registered for by going to this website: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/heritage-of-america-concert-band-hope-for-the-holidays-tickets-207950043177

Giving to Trinity: There are a number of ways that members can give their donations to Trinity Lutheran Church during these times when not everyone can be in church.

- 1. You may **write a check** and mail it in. It can be addressed to the attention of Carol Bessom, Trinity Lutheran Church, 6812 River Road, Newport News, VA, 23607.
- 2. During the church office hours, you may come in to **hand deliver your donation** to Anne, Carol or Pastor Tina.
- 3. Set up an automatic withdrawal from your own bank, which will then send it to Trinity.
- 4. **VANCO Online** giving: If you have questions about the donation site or how to make your donation, please don't hesitate to contact the church office, 245-7861.

Procedure for online giving:

Go to: http://trinitylutheran-nn.com/

Press the green "online giving" link.

5. If you attend in person, an offering plate is located in the narthex. You may place your offering there as you enter.

PRAYER LIST

ILLNESS, SURGERY, RECOVERY, SHUT-INS: Hospice: Don Golden (TELC Organist Emeritus) in Pennsylvania; Recovery: Patricia Fielding and Nancy Lindfors; Rehab: Pat O'Connell - NEW info! (Warwick Forest, The Gardens, Room 327); Nursing Homes/ Assisted Living: Jeanette Cantrell (The Chesapeake, 955 Harpersville Road, AL302, Newport News, VA, 23601); Millie Christensen (Morningside: Rm. 131; Lucille Lebold (Williamsburg Landing, Memory Care Unit); NEW! Joan Johnston (The Newport—Rm 33); Shut-in at Home: Janet Edwards, Gerda Hudgens, and Doris Moeser.

SPECIAL PRAYER REQUESTS: The Ahlen Family, requested by Kathy Stevens; Hannelore Voss (Karoline's mother), requested by the Ardis family; Jack and Sharon (Sherry) Johnston and Pam Little (Donna's sisters), requested by Grant and Donna Owens; Bonnie Carlson, requested by Dave Carlson; Sandy Nelson, requested by Pastor Tina Melusky; Matt Adamo (Brother-in-law of Patricia) and Rachel and Matthew Bradley and their unborn twins, requested by Patricia Fielding; Bob and Nancy Schappert; Pearl O'Connell; Ben Nelson, requested by Laura Davis; Pamela Smith Jones (Patricia's sister), requested by Patricia McClelland; Pamela Bosserman (NEW ADDRESS—4521 Thorncroft Drive, Glen Allen, VA, 23060), requested by Bill Solomon; Donald Hall (son), requested by Susan Hall; Mary Lucia Spake, requested by Bill Solomon; Peggy Cash, requested by Dottie Self and Ms. Marley Keefer, requested by Glen Titus.

Those Who Serve, Military and Civilian Duty: James Fielding, State Dept., Myanmar; Bryan Hunt, State Dept., Washington, D. C.; Eric Lindfors, Deputy Commander US Naval Forces - Korea; Tyler Obara, Virginia Air National Guard, LAFB,; Ashby Owens, Operation Smile; and Josh and Ellen (Davis) Badgley, State Department, Bangkok, Thailand, NEW! Michael Titus, US Navy, Naval Shipyard, Washington, DC and Elisabeth Bruce (Tituss' daughter-in-law) Elisabeth Bruce, Dept. of Justice, Washington, DC.

Due to last week's error of no chancel flowers... This week the flowers are given to the Glory of God by Judy and David Hunt and by Bobbie McWithey in memory of Leslie McWithey, who died on December 5th, and for Bob McWithey, whose birthday was December 7.

Correction to wording of last week's flowers for the Moesleins: Their flowers were given to the Glory of God and in celebration of 40 years since Rock and Sue were ENGAGED!

CHRISTIAN HOPE AND SYMPATHY are extended to the family and friends of our former organist, Donald Eugene Golden, who died on Thursday, December 2, 2021. Don served 29 years at Trinity's organ bench, retiring in June of 1999 and moving back to his home state of Pennsylvania. Trinity celebrated Don's retirement by honoring him as our *Organist and Choir Director Emeritus*. His love of organ music continued in Pennsylvania as he substituted at local churches when possible. He called our church office a few years ago to announce proudly that he had played at his 80th different church. So, he was counting churches and very proud of it, too! His obituary has not been posted online as yet. More information will be forthcoming as received. "Thanks be to God who gives us victory over death through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Serving the Assembly

Crucifer	8:30 Lois Jean Carpenter	11:00
	•	
	Carl Carpenter	
	Samantha Harry	
Lector	Kathy Stevens	Anne Obara
Advent Wreath Lighters and Readers	Harry family	Hill family
Ushers/Greeters/Presenters	Steve Quist	Cliff Obara
	Astrid Quist	Anne Obara
Camera/Livestream		Ben Melusky
Camera/Livestream		Ben Melusky