Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church 8:30 & 11:00 AM Worship Service • December 19, 2021 Fourth Sunday of Advent • ELW Setting 5



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."

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: <u>https://trinitynn.com/</u> Cover image found online at:

http://www.jesustakethepen.com/memories-that-matter-a-cradle-and-a-cross/

Carillon Call to Worship

Prelude

Prelude on *Lo, How a Rose*

Johannes Brahms

Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Readers: 8:30 - The Rummel/Hunt families and 11:00 - The Wessler family

Blessed are you, God of hosts, for you promised to send a son, Emmanuel, who brought your presence among us; and you promise through your Son Jesus to save us from our sin.

As we light these candles, turn again to us in mercy; strengthen our faith in the word spoken by your prophets; restore us and give us life that we may be saved.

O house of David, come, let us rejoice, for the Son of God, Emmanuel, comes to be with us. Amen.

Hymn

Christ, Be Our Light (v. 1) ELW 715

Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you. Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see. Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

The assembly stands.

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.**

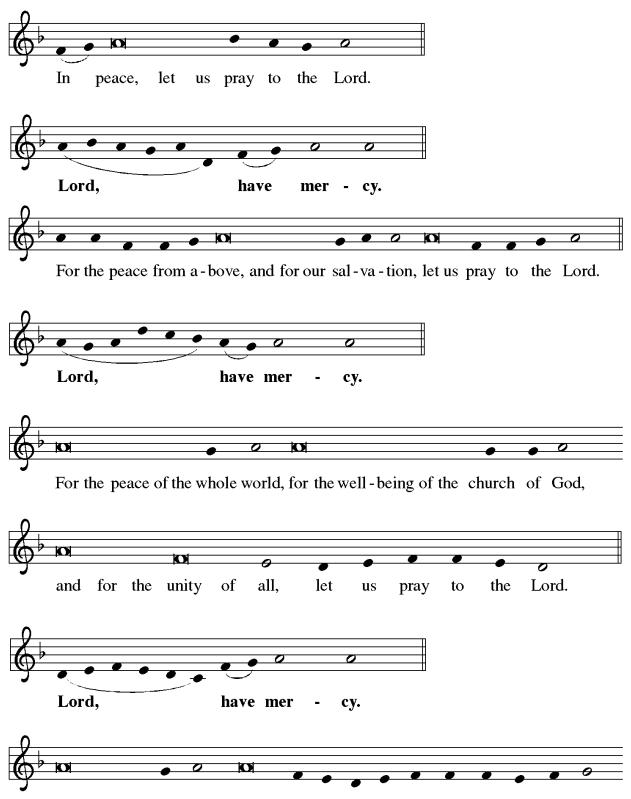
ELW 292

Gathering Hymn Love Has Come light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the Love has come— a 1 2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -3 Love has nev-er will leave Love is life come and us! ev - er -Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav-en has pro - claim it; come to sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eves of his moth - er; last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us. hear how their song of Born un-to joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! the name her heart say - ing? Love! what is is Love! Love is the Love is the peace our hearts are seek-ing. Love! Love! Love is the Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo-ry to God on high. you, a Je - sus. Im - man - u name she whis - pers; Love! Love! el. gift of Christ-mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Greeting

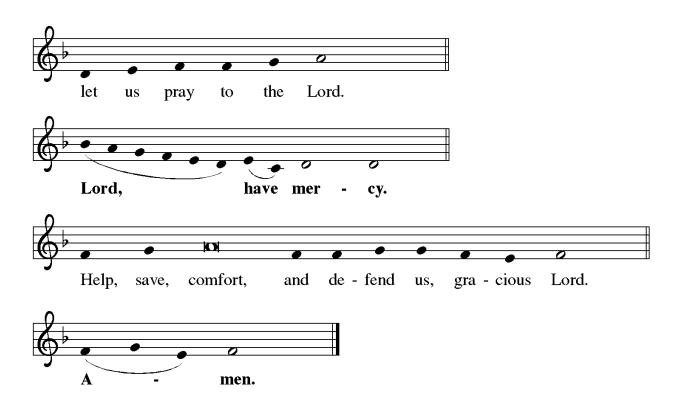
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. And also with you.

Kyrie (11:00 only)



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

Continued on next page.



Prayer of the Day

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

First Reading: Micah 5:2-5a

The prophet Micah, having pronounced judgment upon Judah, speaks of a future shepherdking who, like David, will come from the small town of Bethlehem. (Ephrathah refers to the area around Bethlehem.) This king will restore Israel and bring peace. New Testament writers understood this passage to be referring to Jesus.

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.

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

Psalmody: Luke 1:46b-55 (8:30 read responsively; 11:00 sung responsively)



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

Second Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10

The author of Hebrews uses the image of religious sacrifice to convey the significance of Christ's coming. Through obedient acceptance of God's will, Christ allows his own body to become the greatest sacrifice of all, one through which we are made a holy people.

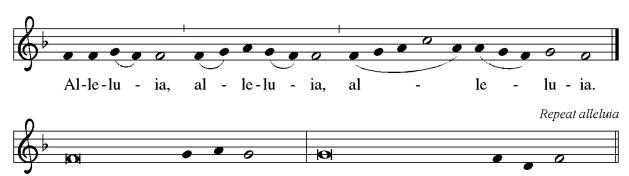
Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God'

(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.

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

The assembly stands.



Gospel Acclamation

Here I am, the servant | of the Lord;* let it be with me according | to your word.

Gospel Lesson: Luke 1:39-45

Elizabeth, John's mother, and Mary, the mother of Jesus, are two women filled with the Holy Spirit and with faith. In Elizabeth's inspired greeting and Mary's song of praise we hear of a saving God who remembers, scatters, lifts up, and fulfills all things.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 1st chapter. 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."

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

Sermon

Pastor Tina

The assembly stands.

Hymn of the Day Canticle of the Turning ELW 723 joy -My soul cries with a ful shout 1 out that the 2 Though Ι am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . . From 3 the halls of to pow'r the for - tress tow'r, not а 4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -0 of my heart and my spir - it of the God is great, sings and your mer - cy will last from the work great. things in me, stone will be left stone. Let the king be for your on ware mem - ber who holds God's mer - cy us fast: must de won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait. the of the be. depths of the past to end age to from jus tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . his throne. liv er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp. You on your plight, fixed your sight ser - vant's and my Your ver -У name puts the proud to shame, and to The hun poor shall . . weep no more, for the gry This that our fore - bears heard is the sav ing word weak-ness you did so from east west shall my not spurn, to those who would for you will show your might, put the you yearn, ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry food they can nev - er earn; there are rod prom - ise which holds bound, till the spear and can be us

Continued on next page



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a-bout to turn.

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 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.

our

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) Thou Shalt Know Him When He Comes Hal H. Hopson

Thou shalt know him when he comes, not by any din of drums, Nor the manner of his airs, nor by anything he wears.

Thou shalt know him when he comes, not by his crown or his gown. But his coming known shall be by the holy harmony which his coming makes in thee.

The assembly stands.

Offertory Hymn That Boy-Child of Mary (v. 4) ELW 293 Refrain That boy-child of Mar born in ble, y _ was a sta _ . his dle in Beth - le a man - ger cra -hem. What shall call him. child of we the ger? 1 man 2 His Je God name is er with _ sus. ev us, How he how can help 3 can save he us, us, moth 4 Gift of the Fa _ ther, to hu - man er, -Refrain What name is giv Beth - le - hem? in en God giv en for us in Beth - le hem. Beth - le born here in hem? а mong us makes him broth in Beth - le hem.

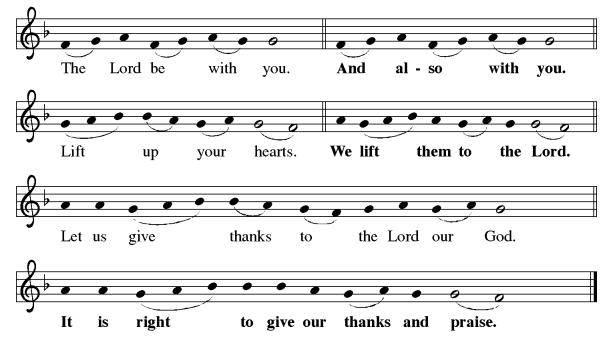
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Offertory Prayer

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



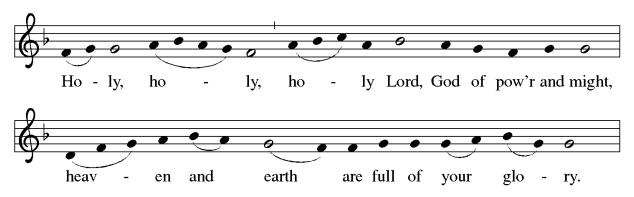
The Great Thanksgiving

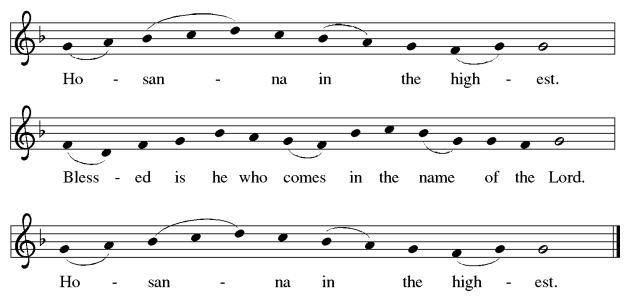
Proper Preface

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.**

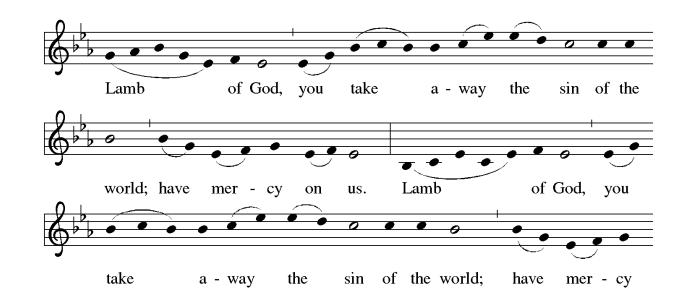
All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

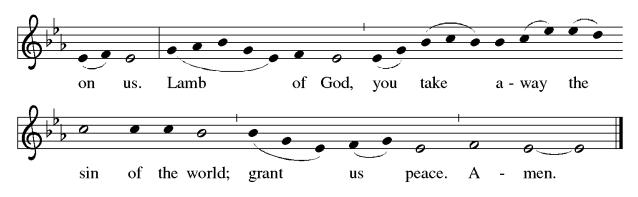
Lord's Prayer

Agnus Dei

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.





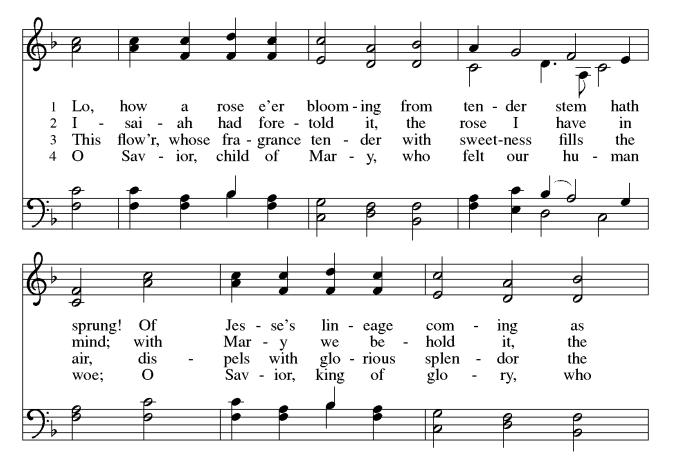
Communion

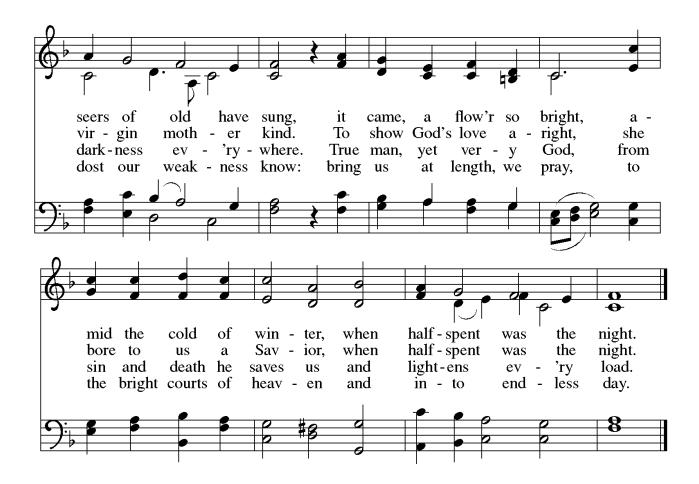
There are two options for communion, either in the pew or at the rail. Ushers will dismiss pews one pew per side at a time. Please fill in empty spaces at the rail. Don't worry about which side you are seated on. Kneel where it is free, just maintain social distance. Bread will be precut and distributed by the pastor. Gluten free wafers will be available in the white dish, as usual. Wine will be in a prefilled tray with proper spacing of the cups. The center ring of the tray will be cups of grape juice. Trash cans will be positioned outside both doors to dispose of cups.

Music During the Distribution

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

ELW 272





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.



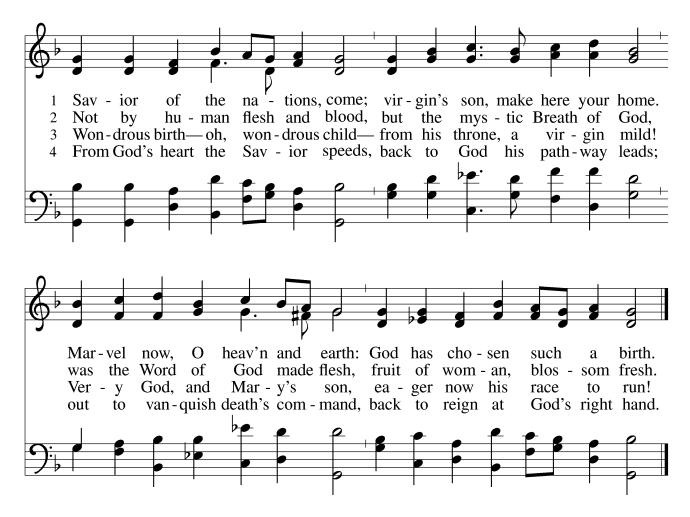
Blessing

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.

Sending Hymn

Savior of the Nations, Come

ELW 263



- 5 Now your manger, shining bright, hallows night with newborn light. Night cannot this light subdue; let our faith shine ever new.
- 6 Praise we sing to Christ the Lord, virgin's son, incarnate Word! To the holy Trinity praise we sing eternally!

Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is near. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Tocatta on Savior of the Nations, Come

Paul Manz



ANNOUNCEMENTS



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

The church office will be CLOSED on Monday, December 27, for the Christmas holiday.

Pastor Tina on vacation: After the 11:00 service on Sunday, December 26, Pastor Tina and Ben will be on vacation until Sunday, January 2. Please call the church office if you have any emergent need.

Lessons and Carols: On Sunday, December 26, there will be only ONE worship service at 10:00 a.m., both online and in person. Pastor Tina has been encouraging all who worship in person or, of course, streamlining on Facebook, to wear their PJs and bring their hot cocoa, coffee or tea. We will be a relaxed family unit that morning. So, please join us for a relaxed Lessons and Carols!

Greening of the Church: Many, many thanks to all who helped decorate our sanctuary last Sunday. It was all done so quickly! We appreciate our Trinity family for their love of sharing their time and energy.

Thanks, Edmarc Elves: A HEARTY thanks goes to all who helped with the Edmarc bags, from the donating, to the sorting, to the assembling of boxes to the delivering of all ten boxes. Those who helped are: Teresa Flores, Kelly Rummel, David Hunt, Don Sniady, the Adult Sunday School Class and Pastor Tina. We appreciate all of the hard work; now for the *heart* work.

Undecorating the church: After the one worship service at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, January 2, we will be undecorating the church. Once again, many hands make light work. Thanks!

One worship service on January 2, 2022: Please take note that there is only ONE worship service on **Sunday, January 2, both online and in person** Since Pastor Tina will be gone, we are delighted to announce Trinity's own, Chaplain Beth Woodard, will be standing in for the morning.

Poinsettias: You may pick up your poinsettia(s) no later than after the 10:00 a.m. worship service on Sunday, January 2.

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.

Schappert's New Address: Due to health concerns, Bob and Nancy have recently relocated to Cary, NC near their daughter Susan. Here is their new address: Bob and Nancy Schappert, 215 Brightmore Drive, Apartment 450, Cary, NC, 27518. We will miss you Bob and Nancy!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE TRINITY EVENTS...

Tuesday Morning Bible Study: The next Bible study will be on **Tuesday, December 21**, at **10:30 a.m.**, both virtually and in person. There will be no Bible Study on Tuesday, December 28. Pastor Tina will be out of town.

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 on the River Road side of the church. 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

YOUTH NEWS!

Pure Vida Bracelets Fundraiser for National Youth Gathering: Great Stocking Stuffers: The youth are selling Pure Vida bracelets to help raise money for the ELCA National Youth Gathering in 2024/ The bracelets are \$5 each. An order form was sent out via Constant Contact on December 2; however, there are some forms located on the table in the narthex. There is no deadline to turn in your form. Please help support our youth!

Caroling, Homebound Gifts, Painting, and Christmas Party: TODAY!, 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: Please remember, once you are registered for Winter Cel, 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. Also after registering, 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.

Bowling Afternoon: The youth group is planning an afternoon of bowling following the second service on **Sunday, January 9**. Meet in the lobby by the glass doors and we will carpool over to York Lanes on George Washington Memorial Highway. Make sure that you bring \$20 with you for lunch (pizza and drinks), bowling, and renting shoes. **Parents** can **pick their youth up at York Lanes by 3 PM.**

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: Recovery: Nancy Lindfors; Rehab: Pat O'Connell - (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; Ms. Marley Keefer, requested by Glen Titus; and the family and friends of Don Golden. 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, <u>NEW!</u> Michael Titus, US Navy, Naval Shipyard, Washington, DC and Elisabeth Bruce (Titus' daughter-in-law) Elisabeth Bruce, Dept. of Justice, Washington, DC.

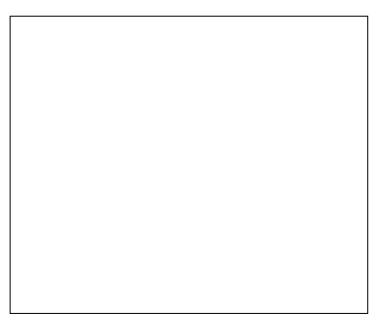
Today, the **chancel flowers are given to the Glory of God** in memory of his father, Mr. Spindler Krause, by Spindler and Shirley Krause.

Friday, December 24: Christmas Eve
2:00 Abbreviated Christmas Eve service with Holy Communion
4:30 Children's Service with Nativity story and Holy Communion
7:30 (in person and online) Candlelight worship with Holy Communion
Sunday, December 26: 1st Sunday of Christmas
10:00 (in person and online) Service of Lessons and Carols with Holy Communion
Sunday, January 2: 2nd Sunday of Christmas
10:00 (in person and online) Worship with Holy Communion

Serving the Assembly

	<u>8:30</u>	<u>11:00</u>
Crucifer	Nathan Rummel	
Acolytes	Karina Stevens	
	Keegan Wise	
Lector	Kathy Stevens	Patricia McClelland
Advent Wreath Lighters and Readers	Rummel/Hunt families	Wessler family
Ushers/Greeters/Presenters	Steve Quist	Dave Carlson
	Astrid Quist	Anne Obara
Camera/Livestream		Ben Melusky

Pure Vida Fundraiser



Started in Costa Rica by two friends looking to support the artisan crafters of the area, Pure Vida bracelets are designed to exemplify "pure life." It's a lifestyle centered on enjoying life's little pleasures, slowing things down, and living life to the fullest. They partner with countless charities and organizations to support them in their efforts and now we're partnering with them with our Trinity inspired bracelet to support our youth!

Cost: \$5/each

Name: --____

Contact (phone number or email): _____

Number of bracelets desired: _____

Total cost: ____

(Checks can be made out to Trinity Lutheran Church, memo line: Pure Vida) Forms & Checks can be turned into the TLC/TLS office.