Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church Fourth Sunday of Advent 10:00 AM Worship Service • December 18, 2022 ACS Setting 12



Today Isaiah prophesies that a young woman will bear a son and name him Emmanuel. The gospel is Matthew's account of the annunciation and birth of the one named Emmanuel, God-with-us. During these final days of Advent we pray, "O come, O come, Emmanuel," a beloved hymn based on the O Antiphons, ancient prayers appointed for the seven days preceding Christmas. On this final Sunday of Advent we prepare to celebrate the birth of the one born to save us from the power of sin and 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; or, if you are online during our worship service, drop us a line to say hello or that you and your family are attending, so that we know you have joined us for worship. For those who come in person, 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 .

A nursery room is available during the service. The nursery is located off the hallway on the Huntington Avenue side of the church building. At this time, there are no nursery attendants. We also have "activity binders" available for older children to enjoy during the service. Please ask an usher about using one.

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.

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

WING IN THE GOOD NEWS

6812 River Road, Newport News, VA 23607 (757) 245-7861 – http://trinitylutheran-nn.com Church Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

REV. TINA MELUSKY – Pastor (*tina.melusky@gmail.com*) GEOFFREY BELL – Director of Music Ministries (*music@trinitynn.org*) ANNE OBARA – Administrative Assistant (*admin@trinitynn.org*) CAROL BESSOM – Treasurer (*cbessom@trinitynn.com*) THE CONGREGATION OF TRINITY LUTHERAN – Ministers of the Word

FACEBOOK & WORSHIP LIVESTREAMS: http://facebook.com/TrinityNN TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL WEBSITE: http://trinitynn.org

PASTOR MELUSKY'S OFFICE HOURS

Monday 9am-12pm; Tuesday 9-10:30am, 11:30am-12:15pm; Wednesday 9:30am-12pm; Thursday 9am-12pm Times are flexible with monthly meetings, but feel free to call for an appointment or drop in. **Pastor's Cell:** (734) 239-4013

> Trinity is a partner church with Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center, LINK, THRIVE, and The Simple Sunflower. Bulletin cover image by Sharefaith Media

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CARILLON CALL TO WORSHIP

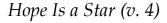
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prelude

O Come, O Come Emmanuel Michael Helman – bells

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Response





GATHERING

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things. Blessed be God's name forever. **Amen.**

Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep. Let us confront our sins, and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

Hill Family

God of new beginnings,

we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign.
We have strayed from your paths.
We prepare for war instead of peace.
We dishonor one another and your creation.
Purify us with your refining fire
and set us again on your way of love,
that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance,
and welcome your coming among us. Amen.
People of God,

a new thing is growing in our midst, a tender branch, a living sign. By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder. You have put on + Christ, and your sins have been washed away. Rejoice in the way of the Lord. **Amen.**

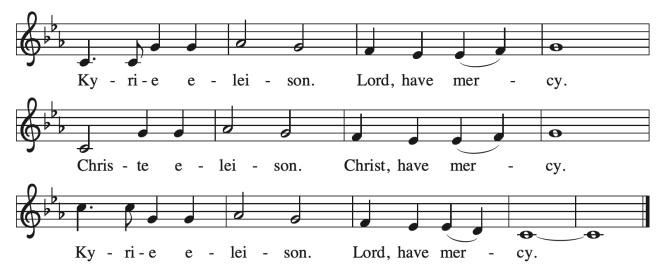
GATHERING HYMN

People, Look East BESANÇON ELW 248

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



CANTICLE OF PRAISE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 7:10-16

An Israelite and Aramean military coalition presented a serious threat to King Ahaz of Judah. In response, Ahaz decided to secure his throne and kingdom by seeking Assyrian help. Isaiah reminds Ahaz that human attempts to establish security will fail. The prophet gives the sign that is the only source of true safety: Immanuel, God is with us!

The Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

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

PSALM 80:1-7, 17-19 (spoken)

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, stir up your strength and come to help us.

Restore us, O God;

let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

O Lord God of hosts,

how long will your anger fume when your people pray?

You have fed them with the bread of tears;

you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

You have made us the derision of our neighbors,

and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

Restore us, O God of hosts;

let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,

the one you have made so strong for yourself.

And so will we never turn away from you;

give us life, that we may call upon your name.

Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;

let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

SECOND READING: Romans 1:1-7

Most of the Christians in Rome do not know Paul. In this letter's opening he introduces himself as an apostle divinely appointed to spread God's gospel. The gospel's content is the promised coming of Christ, and Paul's mission is to bring about the obedience of faith among all nations, including his Roman audience.

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



The virgin shall conceive and | bear a son and they shall name | him Emmanuel.

GOSPEL: Matthew 1:18-25

Matthew's story of Jesus' birth focuses on the role of Joseph, who adopts the divinelybegotten child into the family of David and obediently gives him the name Jesus, which means "God saves."

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 1st chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,

and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

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

CHILDREN'S CHAT

SERMON

Pastor Tina

Pastor Tina

The assembly stands.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Of the Father's Love Begotten DIVINUM MYSTERIUM ELW 295

APOSTLE'S 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

God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

RECEIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Once He Came in Blessing Patricia Fielding, flute arr. Mark Sedio

Once he came in blessing, all our sins redressing; came in likeness lowly, Son of God most holy; bore the cross to save us; hope and freedom gave us.

Still he comes within us; still his voice would win us from the sins that hurt us; would to truth convert us from our foolish error ere he comes in terror.

Thus, if we have known him, not ashamed to own him, nor have spurned him coldly, but will trust him boldly, He will then receive you, heal you, and forgive you.

Those who then are loyal find a welcome royal. Come, then, O Lord Jesus, from our sins release us; let us here confess you, till in heav'n we bless you.

OFFERTORY HYMN

Love Has Come UN FLAMBEAU ELW 292

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Eternal God,

you make the desert bloom

and send springs of water to thirsty ground.

Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money,

and make us messengers of your mercy and love

for all in need of your healing and justice.

We ask this through Christ our Savior. Amen.

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

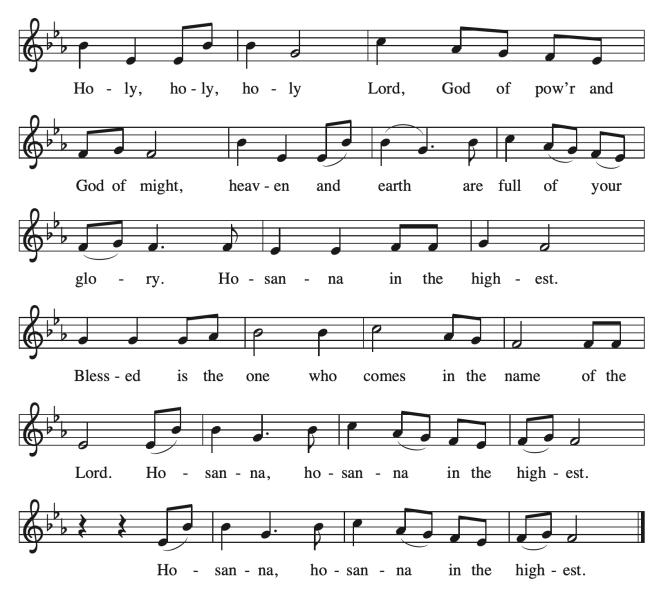
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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

O God triune, how majestic is your name in all the earth. Over the eons your merciful might evolved our home, a fragile tree of life. Here by your wisdom are both life and death, growth and decay, the nest and the hunt, sunshine and storm, darkness and light. Sustained by these wonders, we creatures of dust join in the ancient song: The earth is full of your glory. **The earth is full of your glory.**

O God triune, you took on our flesh in Jesus our healer. In Christ you bring life from death; we remember his cross, we laud his resurrection. Broken like bread, he enlivens our body. Outpoured like wine, he fills the earth with goodness. Receiving this mystery, we mortals sing our song: The earth is full of your glory. **The earth is full of your glory.**

We praise you for the heart of Jesus, so filled with your love for this earth.

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.

Gathered around this table, we your children unite in this song: The earth is full of your glory. **The earth is full of your glory.**

O God triune, you create the worlds, you uphold the living, you embrace the dead. Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth. Strengthen us for our journey with this meal, the body and blood of Christ. Give us a future that trusts in you and cares for your earth. Empowered by your promises, we rise from our deaths to praise you again: The earth is full of your glory. **The earth is full of your glory.**

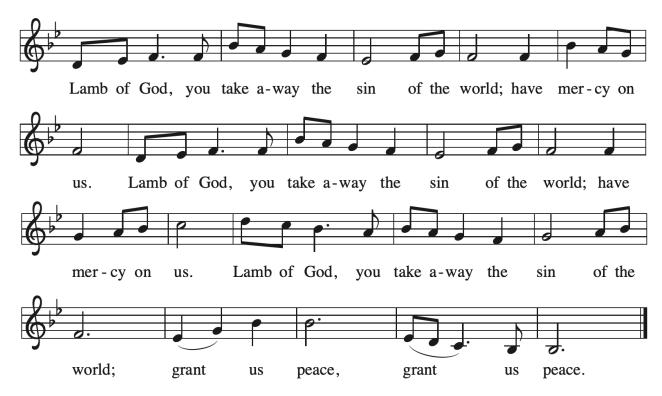
Amen, and amen. Amen, and amen.

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 sits.

AGNUS DEI



COMMUNION

Communion will be held around the table. The bread will be handed to you by the pastor. Please take a communion cup with wine from the outside edge of the tray or a grape juice cup from the center of the tray. Recycle baskets are located outside of the sanctuary doors for your plastic cups.

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming ES IST EIN ROS

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**

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE	Now, Lord	ELW 200

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Faithful God, in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, + bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN	Savior of the Nations, Come	ELW 263
	NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND	

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

Toccata on Savior of the Nations, Come





ANNOUNCEMENTS

<u>**Guest Musicians Today in Worship:</u>** A hearty Trinity welcome to one of our guest musicians, Michael Helman, who is playing bells during worship today. Also, though she needs no introduction, we welcome our special Trinity flutist, Patricia Fielding, as well. Thanks to both of you for your time and talents that you share with us.</u>

Congregational Meeting: TODAY, there will be one more congregational meeting for council elections and other budgetary/property business. Please stay to help make a quorum for our important business.

Holiday Hours at Trinity: The church office will be closed on Friday, December 23, Monday, December 26, Thursday, December 29, 2022 and Monday, January 2, 2023. The school offices will be closed from December 18, 2022 through January 3, 2023.

Organ Payment Completed!: As we celebrate the holiday season, let us also celebrate the completion of the organ renovation repayment of \$19, 945.56, in four years, with many donations and a final donation in memory of Dick Davis. Thanks to all who have helped us pay off this loan so quickly!

<u>Bible 365!</u>: Trinity members will be joining their siblings in Christ at Christ Lutheran Church, Duncannon, PA, starting late January 2023, for a weekly reading of the Bible. Our goal is to read the Bible starting with the Old Testament first and then reading the New Testament twice through before the end of 2023. Let Pastor Tina know if you are interested. A Constant Contact will go out soon with many more details about this new adventure. All are welcome to join us, including friends and family members who are not members of Trinity.

<u>**Reconciling in Christ (RIC)</u>**: Trinity's RIC Core Team wants to hear from you! There are three ways to send them your questions and comments along the journey: 1. Fill out a paper form in the TLC library and leave it in the drop box. 2. Bookmark and fill out the online form using the link that will be emailed to you this week 3. Click the link on the TLC website and Fill out the online form. Email the RIC Core Team if you have any questions: <u>ric@trinitynn.com</u></u>

The TEAM (Trinity Endowment And Ministries) Foundation is soliciting inputs for this year's charitable donations to local, national, and global organizations that embody TELC's statement of purpose. Organizations historically funded are, but not limited to, those that live into our desire to provide social ministry and community care and faith growth and development. Last year's \$5,000 distribution included donations to Caroline Furnace Lutheran Camp, ELCA Leadership Fund, First Nations Development Institute, Lutheran Disaster Relief Fund, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services, Pastoring the City, The Simple Sunflower. This year's distribution will include a portion of the Kessler bequest totaling over \$17,000 for causes you care about! Please fill out the attached form and submit to a member of Church Council or directly to church administrators **by January 1** for TEAM Committee consideration and Congregation Council approval. **FORMS FOR YOUR SUGGESTIONS MAY BE FOUND ON THE BULLETIN BOARD AND IN THE NARTHEX.**

Newsome-Bailey Project: There are <u>THREE</u> options for helping underserved students in the East End, currently. Our newest request is to tutor GED students M-TH (9-12 &/or 12:45-2PM) with YouthBuild at Four Oaks Day Center. Newsome Park has tutoring spots open M-F 10:15-11:45 AM, working 1:1 with 3rd graders. And/Or you may choose to work with PK and K students on early reading/writing skills from 8:30 - 10 AM M-F at Marshall Early Learning Center. If you or someone you know would like to be trained for these volunteer positions, all in the East End NN, please contact Tinaotool@gmail.com or at 402-490-0312. You need not be available daily-we'll be grateful for any hours you may serve. Perfect for college students and those who are retired!

<u>A Note from the Finance Committee</u>: The Church Finance Committee would like to thank the members of the congregation who have generously responded to supporting the 2022-2023 Ministry Investment Plan by increasing their regular offerings to the general fund. Your growing support of our financial goals helps Trinity become a powerful force for good in our community, a living example of "God's Work - Our Hands." If you are prayerfully considering your own ability to increase your financial response, please remember that the amount doesn't matter! It is your willingness to contribute your time, talent, and treasure that helps us to grow in our service to God and to our siblings in our community and around the world.

VANCO Online giving: The procedure to use the online offering system, VANCO, is very user-friendly. Just go to Trinity's website, http://www.trinitylutherannn.com and click on the green "online giving" link found on the homepage. If you are updating your donation and paying by credit card, you will need to reenter the CVC number. 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.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR ...

<u>Blue Christmas Worship Service</u>: A worship service of hope and healing, aka Blue Christmas, will be held on Monday, **December 19 at 6:30 p.m.** All are invited to come.

<u>Tuesday Morning Bible Study</u>: The next Bible study will be held on **December 20** at **10:30 a.m.** in the church parlor and online via Zoom. All are welcome!

<u>Midweek Advent Services - "Preparing for Holy Disruption"</u>: Our theme for December 21 is Rejoicing. Our services will all focus on ways in which we can prepare our hearts, minds and souls for the inbreaking of God into our world, how we can prepare ourselves for the holy disruption that is Christ's birth.

Undecorating the Church: The Worship and Music committee, along with the choir members, welcomes anyone who wishes to join us for pizza and undecorating the sanctuary on Wednesday, January 4 at 4:30 p.m. Thanks in advance.

YOUTH

Pure Vida Bracelets Fundraiser for National Youth Gathering: The youth are still selling Pure Vida bracelets to raise money for the ELCA National Youth Gathering in 2024. The bracelets are **\$5 each** and make great gifts. Call the church office if you need an order form or grab one from either the narthex or church office.

Sunday School for Youth Group: Come and hang out before church (8:45 -9:45) and join us in conversation and movie watching. We will be watching *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* this month.

FROM THE ORGAN BENCH

<u>Choir practice</u>: Choir rehearsals are on **Wednesday nights at 7:00 p.m.** Any youth or adult who enjoys singing is invited to join us - no musical training required, and we can work with any voice!

<u>Trinity Ringers Bell Choir</u>: Yes, we have finally chosen a name. A name which was used many years ago at Trinity has been resurrected. If you are interested in ringing choir bells, (with Geoffrey Bell as our leader), please stay after church on Sunday

mornings to join us in merriment. We practice every Sunday immediately after worship.

PRAYER LIST

ILLNESS, SURGERY, RECOVERY, SHUT-INS: 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): Joan Johnston (The Newport – Rm 33); Shut-in at Home: Peggy Cash, Janet Edwards, Gerda Hudgens, Doris Moeser, and Dick Sallade.

SPECIAL PRAYER REQUESTS: The Ahlen Family and Becky Peterson, requested by Kathy Stevens; Hannelore Voss (Karoline's mother), requested by the Ardis family; Sharon (Sherry) Johnston and Pam Little (Donna's sisters), requested by Grant and Donna Owens; Matt Adamo (Brother-in-law of Patricia), requested by Patricia Fielding; Donna Gauthier, requested by Laura Davis; Donald Hall (son), requested by Susan Hall; for the mental health of all those who are first responders, requested by Dinah Balthis; David Harvey (uncle) and Shirley Krause, requested by Anne Obara; Matt Eggar, requested by Don and Sandy Sniady; James Newsome (sonin-law), requested by Bill Solomon; Dick Duregger, requested by Sandy Cobb; and Susan Grosser (Nurse in charge of Costa Rican Mission Community and Clinic), requested by Patricia Wessler; Bob Johnson, requested by Al Lebold; and the family and friends of Jack Johnston.

Those Who Serve, Military and Civilian Duty: James Fielding, State Dept., Myanmar; Bryan Hunt, State Dept., Belleville, IL.; Eric Lindfors, Deputy Commander US Naval Forces - Korea; Tyler Obara, Virginia Air National Guard, LAFB; Josh and Ellen (Davis) Badgley, State Department, Bangkok, Thailand; Michael Titus, US Navy, Naval Shipyard, Washington, DC and Elisabeth Bruce.

The flowers today are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Sudie Wagner, by Katie, Jeanette and Kenny Dail.

Serving the Assembly

Crucifer	Lois Jean Carpenter
Acolytes	Carl Carpenter Andrew Rummel
Lector	Kelly Rummel
Ushers/Greeters/Presenters	David Hunt Judy Hunt
Camera/Livestream	Cliff Obara

Trinity Holiday Schedule

Advent Midweek Services Starts November 30, 6:30 PM Zoom (a link will be sent out each week)

Greening the Church

Sunday, December 11 After 10:00 AM Worship

TLS Lessons and Carols Thursday, December 15, 7:00 PM Livestreamed

Monday, December 19, 6:30 PM

Christmas Eve

Blue Christmas

ve Saturday, December 24 2:00 PM; 4:30 PM & 7:00 PM (Musical Prelude) And 7:30 PM Service begins

Only 7:30 service will be livestreamed

Christmas Day

10:00 AM (Service of Poetry and the word) Livestreamed and In person

Sunday, January 1

10:00 AM

Lay led Lessons and Carols Livestreamed and in person Poinsettias may be picked up

Merry Christmas!

TEAM MONIES REQUEST FORM

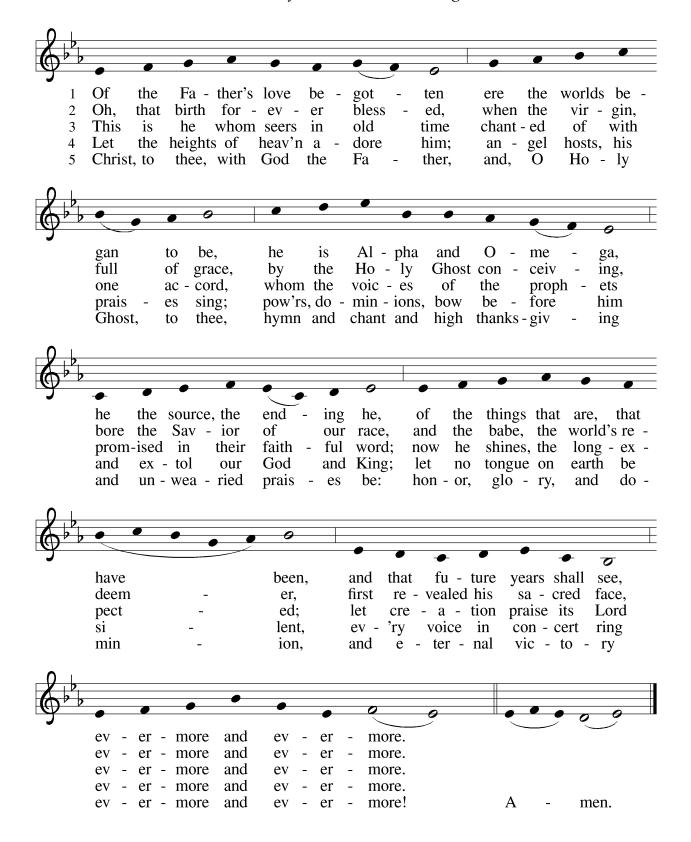
Request Guidelines:	DUE: January 1, 2023		
1. Monies can only be dispersed to organ	<i>izations</i> , they cannot be used for individuals.		
2. One form should be submitted for each	h request.		
3. Information and/or justification for give	ing to this organization must be included.		
 Return completed forms to the church <u>admin@trinitynn.org</u> OF 	administrator via e-mail, mail, or in person. R Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church ATTENTION: TEAMS Foundation 6812 River Road Newport News, VA 23607		
Please complete t	the following information:		
Submitted by (Your Name):	Date:		
Name of Organization for Requested Monies:			
Org Information/Justification:			
	Contact Person and Address of Organization:		
Amount Requested: \$			
Check to be made Payable to:			
FOR COMMITTEE USE ONLY			
Amount Approved: \$	Date:		
Committee Chair:			

GATHERING HYMN

People, Look East

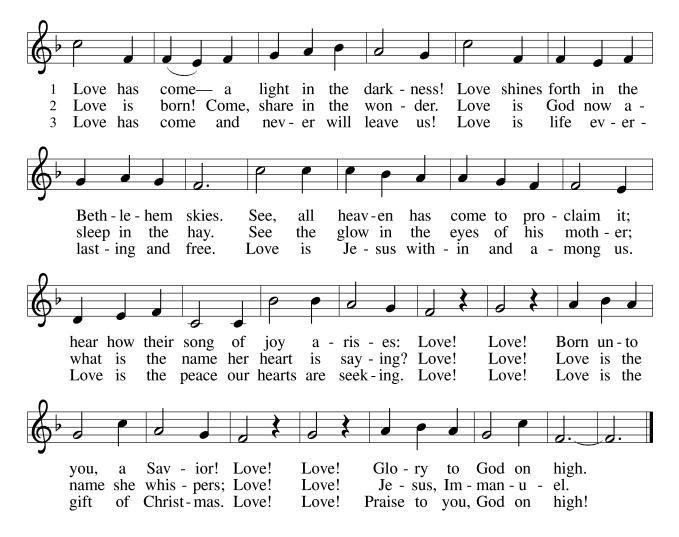
ELW 248





OFFERTORY HYMN

Love Has Come



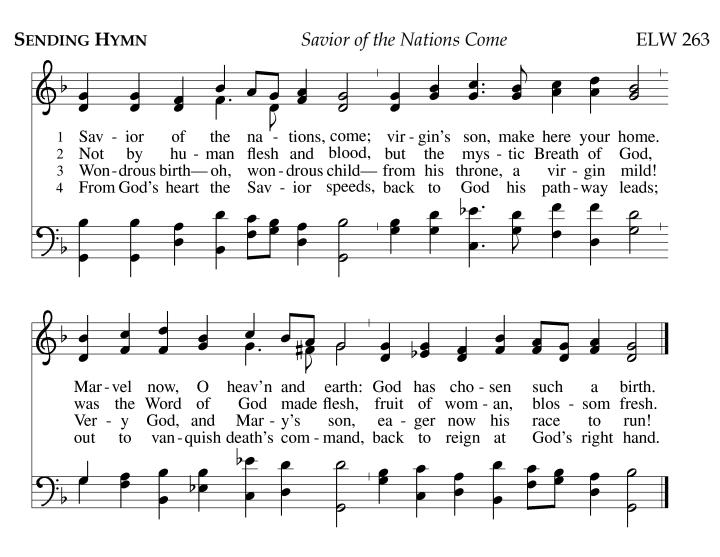
MUSIC DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

ELW 272







- 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!