



Be patient...
until the
coming of
the Lord.

JAMES 5:7



Welcome to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church and School.

We gather to worship the only God and Savior: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Patience is a Christian virtue

December 14, 2025

Advent 3

Patience is a virtue, they say. And the Bible would agree. Using past examples of people's patience and bringing us God's promises, the Bible seeks to develop patience within us because...Patience is a Christian virtue.

Today's 8:00 a.m. worship is broadcast live on YouTube. The YouTube link can be found at the church's website:

- holytrinity.church

After the service, the recording can be accessed at the same YouTube site.

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ORDER OF SERVICE—MARTIN LUTHER'S GERMAN MASS

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Psalm 146 (NIV)

*The congregation speaks the words in **bold**.*

Praise the LORD.

Praise the LORD, my soul.

I will praise the LORD all my life;

I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

Do not put your trust in princes,
in human beings, who cannot save.

When their spirit departs, they return to the ground;
on that very day their plans come to nothing.

**Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the LORD their God.**

He is the Maker of heaven and earth,
the sea, and everything in them—
he remains faithful forever.

**He upholds the cause of the oppressed
and gives food to the hungry.**

The LORD sets prisoners free,
the LORD gives sight to the blind,
the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down,
the LORD loves the righteous.

**The LORD watches over the foreigner
and sustains the fatherless and the widow,
but he frustrates the ways of the wicked.**

The LORD reigns forever,
your God, O Zion, for all generations.

Praise the LORD.

O Lord Je-sus, God's own Son, our me-di-a-tor at the heav'n-ly throne,
 hear our cry and grant our sup-pli-ca-tion. E-le-i-son! E-le-i-son!
 Ky-ri-e! O God the Ho-ly Ghost, guard our faith, the
 gift we need the most, and bless our life's last hour that we leave this
 sin-ful world with glad-ness. E-le-i-son! E-le-i-son!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Hear our prayers, Lord Jesus Christ, and come with the good news of your mighty deliverance. Drive the darkness from our hearts, and fill us with your light; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated.

THE WORD

First Lesson: Isaiah 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land will be glad;
 the desert will rejoice and blossom like a wildflower.
 It will blossom abundantly and will also rejoice with joy and singing.
 The glory of Lebanon will be given to it,
 the splendor of Carmel and Sharon.
 They will see the glory of the LORD, the splendor of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands, steady the shaking knees!
Say to the cowardly: "Be strong; do not fear!
Here is your God; vengeance is coming.
God's retribution is coming; he will save you."
Then the eyes of the blind will be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped.
Then the lame will leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the mute will sing for joy,
for water will gush in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
the parched ground will become a pool,
and the thirsty land, springs.
In the haunt of jackals, in their lairs,
there will be grass, reeds, and papyrus.
A road will be there and a way; it will be called the Holy Way.
The unclean will not travel on it,
but it will be for the one who walks the path.
Fools will not wander on it.
There will be no lion there,
and no vicious beast will go up on it; they will not be found there.
But the redeemed will walk on it,
and the ransomed of the LORD will return
and come to Zion with singing, crowned with unending joy.
Joy and gladness will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Lesson: James 5:7-11

Therefore, brothers and sisters, be patient until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth and is patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, because the Lord's coming is near.

Brothers and sisters, do not complain about one another, so that you will not be judged. Look, the judge stands at the door!

Brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the Lord's name as an example of suffering and patience. See, we count as blessed those who have endured. You have heard of Job's endurance and have seen the outcome that the Lord brought about — the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Hymn 596 To God the Holy Spirit Let Us Pray stanzas 1,3



1 To God the Ho - ly Spir - it let us pray
3 Tran - scen-dent Com - fort in our ev - 'ry need,



for the true faith need - ed on our way
help us nei - ther scorn nor death to heed



that when life is end - ing he may de - fend us, on our
that we may not fal - ter nor cour - age fail us when the



home - ward jour - ney at - tend us. Lord, have mer - cy!
foe shall taunt and as - sail us. Lord, have mer - cy!

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

Now when John heard in prison what the Christ was doing, he sent a message through his disciples and asked him, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?"

Jesus replied to them, "Go and report to John what you hear and see: The blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor are told the good news, and blessed is the one who isn't offended by me."

As these men were leaving, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the wind? What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothes? See, those who wear soft clothes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written:

See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you;
he will prepare your way before you.

“Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one greater than John the Baptist has appeared, but the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated.

Hymn 327 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
2 O come, O Root of Jes - se, free your own from
3 O come, O Day-spring from on high, and cheer us
4 O come, O Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen



cap - tive Is - ra - el that mourns in lone - ly
Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your
by your draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y
wide our heav'n - ly home; make safe the way that



ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
peo - ple save, and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.
clouds of night, and death's dark shad - ows put to flight.
leads on high, and close the path to mis - er - y.

Refrain

Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el
shall come to you, O Is - ra - el!

Sermon— James 5:7-11
Patience is a Christian virtue

Hymn 940 *We All Believe in One True God*

1 We all be - lieve in one true God, Fa - ther, Son, and
2 We all be - lieve in Je - sus Christ, Son of God and
3 We all con - fess the Ho - ly Ghost, who from both for -
Ho - ly Ghost, ev - er - pres - ent help in need,
Mar - y's Son, who de - scend - ed from his throne
e'er pro - ceeds, who up - holds and com - forts us
praised by all the heav'n - ly host, by whose might - y
and for us sal - va - tion won, by whose cross and
in all tri - als, fears, and needs. Bless - ed, ho - ly
pow'r a - lone all is made and wrought and done.
death are we res - cued from all mis - er - y.
Trin - i - ty, praise to you e - ter - nal - ly!

OFFERING

The ability to give from the heart is itself a gift from God. We thank God for the

means to give. Even more, we thank God for the motive to give. Christ gave himself for us. We give as Christians out of love for Christ.

You may place your offering in the plates or use Online Giving.

The QR code at right will also take you to the giving site.

Thank you for your offerings.



MUSICAL OFFERING

Adult Confirmation (8:00 a.m. service)

Please stand.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Holy Father, too often we think of sin as a good thing. We think that we will find pleasure in sin and that we can solve our problems by sinning. Our real problem is that we don't trust you. You are loving. If you call something a sin, we should trust that it is evil. Wondrously, you not only still love us but sent your Son to die for our sins, knowing already all the evil we would do. Forgive us for his sake. Help us to fear, love, and trust in you above all things so that we can see our sins for the abomination that they really are. Lead us to godly sorrow so that we turn from our evil ways. Comfort us with your gospel so that we live for you. Move us to follow your commands because you are the light of the world.

Our loving and faithful God, you promise in your Word that in all things, you work for the good of those who love you. You have called us into your kingdom through faith in Christ as our Savior. So we claim this promise and ask that you would keep us mindful of it. Help us to also see that not only pleasant things are good for us and to understand that hardships and difficulties can serve for our eternal good.

Lord, do with us as seems best in your own eyes; only give us, we ask, a humble and a patient spirit to wait expectantly for you. Make our service acceptable to you while we live and make us ready for you when we die, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

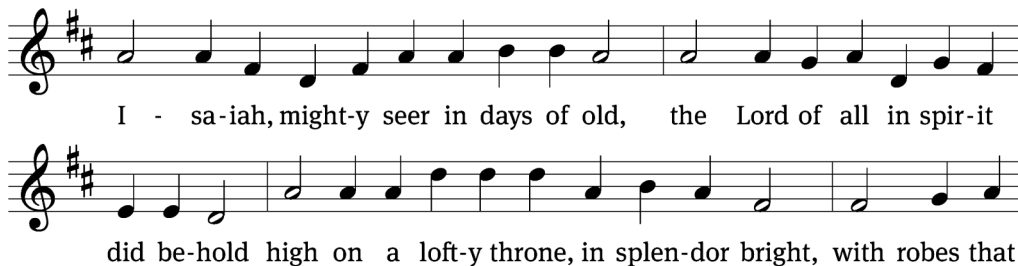
THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT

P: Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, as we gather to celebrate the Testament of our Lord, let us take to heart the words of Christ by which he imparted to us his body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins. Let us remember and give thanks for his boundless love, which he proved to us when he redeemed us from God's wrath, from sin, death, and from hell by his own precious blood. Let us faithfully confess that in this bread and wine — which are his body and blood — we receive the pledge and guarantee of his forgiveness. Let us receive and enjoy this Sacrament according to the command that Christ gave, and glorify the name of the one who has so richly blessed us with this meal.

Hymn 943 Isaiah, Mighty Seer



I - sa-iah, might-y seer in days of old, the Lord of all in spir-it
did be-hold high on a loft-y throne, in splen-dor bright, with robes that

filled the tem-ple courts with light. A-bove the throne were flam-ing ser-a-phim;
 six wings had they, these mes-sen-gers of him. With two they veiled their
 fac-es as was right, with two they hum-bly hid their feet from sight,
 and with the oth-er two a-loft they soared; one to the oth-er called and
 praised the Lord: “Ho - ly is God, the Lord of heav’n-ly hosts! Ho - ly is
 God, the Lord of heav’n-ly hosts! Ho - ly is God, the Lord of heav’n-ly hosts!
 His glo - ry fills the heav-ens and the earth!” The beams and lin - tels
 trem-bled at the cry, and clouds of smoke en-wrapped the throne on high.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my † body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my † blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for

you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

Hymn 947 Lamb of God, Pure and Holy stanza 3



3 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, who on the cross did suf - fer,



ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, your-self to scorn did of - fer.



All sin you car-ried for us, else had de-spair reigned o'er us:



your peace be with us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!

Please be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

Holy Trinity offers the Lord's Supper to communicant members of our congregation (and congregations in WELS and ELS). If you are not a communicant member and are interested in going through a course of study to prepare for receiving the Lord's Supper here, please speak with the pastor.

P: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

C: Amen.

Hymn 673 O Lord, We Praise You stanzas 1,2



1 O Lord, we praise you, bless you, and a - dore you,
2 Your ho - ly bod - y in - to death was giv - en,
in thank - giv - ing bow be - fore you. Here with your
life to win for us in heav - en. No great - er
bod - y and your blood you nour - ish our weak souls that
love than this to you could bind us; may this feast of
they may flour - ish. O Lord, have mer - cy!
that re - mind us! O Lord, have mer - cy!
May your bod - y, Lord, born of Mar - y, that our
Lord, your love and kind - ness did move you; let your
sins and sor - rows did car - ry, and your blood for us plead
sup - per move us to love you. All our debt you have paid;
in all tri - al, fear, and need. O Lord, have mer - cy!
peace with God once more is made. O Lord, have mer - cy!

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Minister: Pastor Bart Brauer

Accompanist: Dave Kriewall

Acknowledgements

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Education

Sunday education for all begins at 9:15 a.m. For adult Bible study, Mark Tacke will be presenting on the topic of the Christian's relationship with science. He is a retired science professor at Martin Luther College.

Call meeting

There will be a call meeting today after second service. We will be calling a 6th-grade teacher.

New Member

We give thanks to God for Alivia Parker joining as a member of our congregation today. Welcome, Alivia!

Christmas service invitations

There are Christmas service invitations on the back table by the bulletins. Please take some to share.

ELHS concert

Evergreen Lutheran High School invites you to their *Carols of Christmas* concert featuring the Concert Choir and Band on Friday, December 19, at 7:00 p.m. at their campus in Tacoma.

Choir practice

We are getting a choir together for upcoming festival services. We are doing a piece for Christmas Eve and a piece for Christmas Day. There will be a series of rehearsals immediately following late church service. You are invited to participate in whichever service you plan to attend or both.

Rehearsals:

December 14: Ladies and handbells at 11:45 a.m., all including men immediately after the call meeting

December 21: All at 11:45 a.m. — 12:45 p.m.

All Holy Trinity members of any age are welcome!

Baby supply drive

This coming Christmas season, our school is gathering baby supplies for Step by Step, a local organization that meets the needs of new and expecting mothers.

This is a great way for our students to reflect the love of Christ and help others in our community. Please see the weekly email for a list of items to donate.

A collection box is available downstairs in the main building hallway. We'll continue to collect items until December 15.

Holiday worship schedule

December 24..... 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve

December 25..... 9:00 a.m. Christmas Day with communion

December 31..... 5:00 p.m. New Year's with communion

Children's Christmas Service schedule

December 14..... 3:30 p.m. PreK—2nd grade children's Christmas service

December 18..... 6:30 p.m. 3rd—8th grade children's Christmas service

This week at Holy Trinity.

Today 11:30 a.m. Call meeting

Wednesday..... 9:30 a.m. Ladies Bible study