

*"The root of Jesse will come ...
in him will the Gentiles*

Hope.

Romans 15:12, ESV





Welcome to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church and School.

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

Welcome as you've been welcomed

December 7, 2025

Advent 2

The bond of oneness among fellow believers is a precious thing. It can also be fragile. Any number of issues can threaten that bond. God's Word encourages us to keep unity among ourselves. To do that, we need to welcome and accept one another as we have been welcomed and accepted by God.

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 — MORNING PRAYER (ALTERNATE)

Hymn 316 *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin and fur - nished
3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge
4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and lift us
5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; come, then, and lis - ten,
for a Guest with - in, and let us all our
and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
up to fall no more; O make your face on
has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings good news a - bout the King of kings.
hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
us to shine, and fill the world with love di - vine.
we a - dore and Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Please stand.

P: O Lord, open my lips.

C: **And my mouth shall declare your praise.**

P: Hasten to save me, O God.

C: **O Lord, come quickly to help me.**

P: Give glory to God, our light and our life.

C: **Come, O come, let us worship.**

Come, O Come, Let Us Sing to the Lord

Refrain



Come, O come, let us sing to the Lord,



let us shout with joy to our sav - ing Rock;



come, en - ter in with our songs of praise,



come, en - ter in with thanks - giv - ing.



1 You are a great and a won - drous God,

2 Come, let us wor - ship and, bow - ing low,



cup - ping in your hands all the depths of earth.
kneel be - fore the One who has made us all.



You made the hills and the moun - tains high,
You are the God whom we call our own,

Refrain



you made the seas and the dry - land.
we are the flock that you shep - herd.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming, give us strength in our conflicts, and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated.

Psalm 130

Intro

LORD, from the depths I call to you;
(Lord,) in your pres - ence who can stand,
Lord, hear me from on high
if you our sins re - cord?
and give at - ten - tion to my voice
But yet for - give - ness is with you,
when I for mer - cy cry. Lord,
that we may fear you, Lord.

THE WORD

First Lesson — Isaiah 11:1-10

Then a shoot will grow from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch from his roots will bear fruit.

The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him —
a Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
a Spirit of counsel and strength,
a Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD.
His delight will be in the fear of the LORD.

He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes,

he will not execute justice by what he hears with his ears,
but he will judge the poor righteously
and execute justice for the oppressed of the land.
He will strike the land with a scepter from his mouth,
and he will kill the wicked with a command from his lips.
Righteousness will be a belt around his hips;
faithfulness will be a belt around his waist.

The wolf will dwell with the lamb,
and the leopard will lie down with the goat.
The calf, the young lion, and the fattened calf will be together,
and a child will lead them.

The cow and the bear will graze,
their young ones will lie down together,
and the lion will eat straw like cattle.

An infant will play beside the cobra's pit,
and a toddler will put his hand into a snake's den.

They will not harm or destroy each other
on my entire holy mountain, for the land will be as full
of the knowledge of the LORD as the sea is filled with water.

On that day the root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples.
The nations will look to him for guidance, and his resting place will be glorious.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Lesson—Romans 15:4-13

For whatever was written in the past was written for our instruction, so that we may have hope through endurance and through the encouragement from the Scriptures. Now may the God who gives endurance and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, according to Christ Jesus, so that you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ with one mind and one voice.

Therefore welcome one another, just as Christ also welcomed you, to the glory of God. For I say that Christ became a servant of the circumcised on behalf of

God's truth, to confirm the promises to the fathers, and so that Gentiles may glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles,
and I will sing praise to your name.

Again it says, "Rejoice, you Gentiles, with his people!" And again,
"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles; let all the peoples praise him!"

And again, Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse will appear,
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;
the Gentiles will hope in him."

Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you believe so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Gospel – Matthew 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea and saying, "Repent, because the kingdom of heaven has come near!" For he is the one spoken of through the prophet Isaiah, who said:

A voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

Prepare the way for the Lord; make his paths straight!

Now John had a camel-hair garment with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then people from Jerusalem, all Judea, and all the vicinity of the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins.

When he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Therefore produce fruit consistent with repentance. And don't presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you that God is able to raise up children for Abraham from these stones. The ax is already at the root

of the trees. Therefore, every tree that doesn't produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

"I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I. I am not worthy to remove his sandals. He himself will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing shovel is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn. But the chaff he will burn with fire that never goes out."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated.

Hymn 315 *Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord*



1 Let the earth now praise the Lord, who has tru - ly
2 What the fa - thers most de - sired, what the proph - ets'
3 A - bram's prom - ised great re - ward, Zi - on's help - er,
4 Sav - ior, hear my wel - come cry— loud ho - san - nas



kept his word and at last to us did send
heart in - spired, what they longed for man - y a year
Ja - cob's Lord— him of two - fold race be - hold—
lift - ed high! King of glo - ry, en - ter in;



Christ, the sin - ner's help and friend.
stands ful - filled in glo - ry here.
tru - ly came, as long fore - told.
cleanse my soul of ev - 'ry sin.

5 Crush for me the serpent's head
that, set free from doubt and dread,
I may cling to you in faith,
safely kept through life and death,

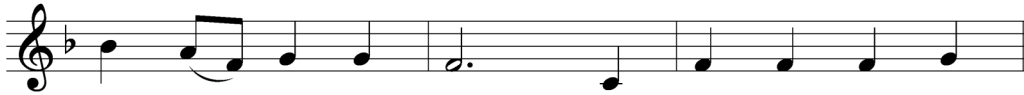
6 And, when you shall come again
as a glorious king to reign,
I with joy may see your face,
freely ransomed by your grace.

Sermon—Romans 15:4-13
Welcome as you've been welcomed

Hymn 954 *Blessed Be the God of Israel*



1 Blessed be the God of Is - ra - el, who
2 With prom - ised mer - cy will God still the
3 My child, as proph - et of the Lord, you



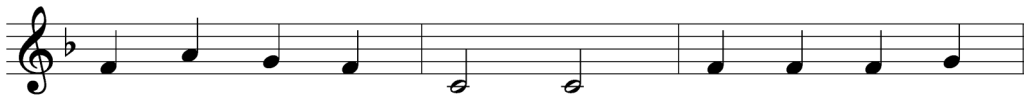
comes to set us free and rais - es up new
cov - e - nant re - call, the oath once sworn to
will pre - pare the way, to tell God's peo - ple



hope for us: a Branch from Da - vid's tree.
A - bra - ham, from foes to save us all,
they are saved from sin's e - ter - nal sway.



So have the proph - ets long de - clared that
that we might wor - ship with - out fear and
Then shall God's mer - cy from on high shine



with a might - y arm God would turn back our
of - fer lives of praise, in ho - li - ness and
forth and nev - er cease to drive a - way the



en - e - mies and all who wish us harm.
right - eous - ness to serve God all our days.
gloom of death and lead us in - to peace.

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](#).

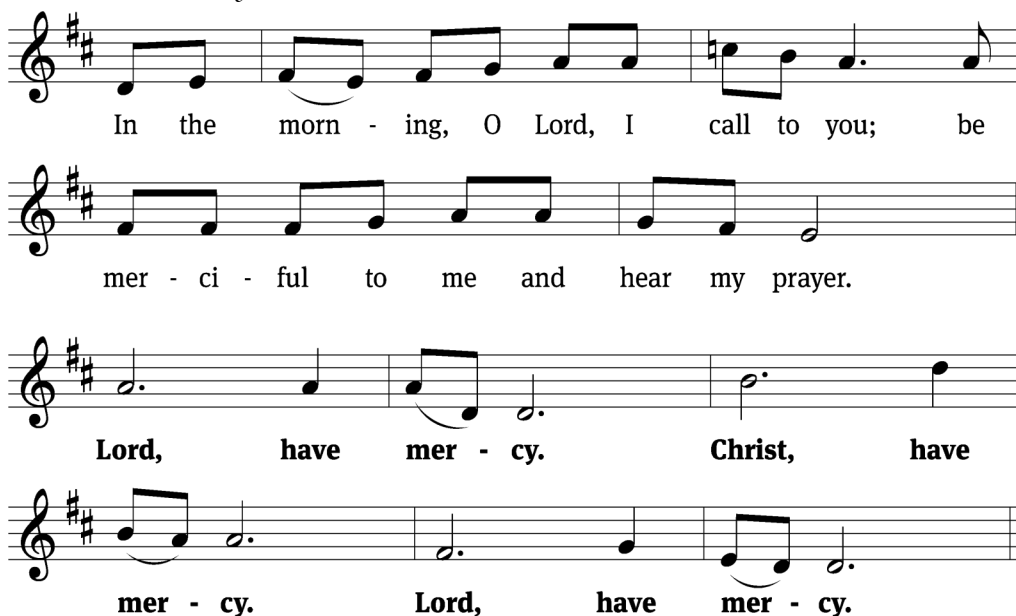
The QR code at right will also take you to the giving site.

Thank you for your offerings.



MUSICAL OFFERING

Lord, Have Mercy



In the morn - ing, O Lord, I call to you; be
mer - ci - ful to me and hear my prayer.
Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have
mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Dear Father, the time is near for us to commemorate the birth of your Son, our Savior. We wish to receive him into our hearts. But heavenly Father, our hearts are stained with sin. It is not fit as a home for one so pure and holy. There is pride, doubt, insincerity, false humility, and fleshly desire to want our will and not yours to be done. That is why we come to you and ask that you not only forgive us for this uninviting heart, but that you use your Word to root out all

that makes us unfit to be called your own. Let us look forward not only to the arrival of the Babe of Bethlehem but also the arrival of the King of kings as he comes in glory.

O Christ, when you hung upon the cross, you saw the soldiers who nailed you there as those in need of forgiveness. You perceived the spiritual needs of the thief who hung next to you. Your eyes were open to the physical needs of your mother. Blind our eyes to selfishness and greed, envy and jealousy. Give us sight to look at those around us the way that you looked at others so that we may imitate your love in thankfulness for your great salvation.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private prayers.

Silent prayer.

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.**



Let us praise the Lord.



Thanks be to God.

BLESSING



The Lord bless and keep you.



A - men.



The Lord's face ev - er shine up - on you.



A - men.



The Lord grant you peace for all your days.



A - men.

Hymn 731 Oh, How Good It Is



1 Oh, how good it is when the fam - 'ly of God dwells to -
2 Oh, how good it is on this jour - ney we share to re -
3 Oh, how good it is to em - brace his com - mand to pre -



geth - er in spir - it, in faith and u - ni - ty. Where the
joyce with the hap - py and weep with those who mourn. For the
fer one an - oth - er, for - give as he for - gives. When we



bonds of peace, of ac - cept - ance and love are the
weak find strength, the af - flict - ed find grace when we
live as one we all share in the love of the



fruits of his pres - ence here a - mong us.
of - fer the bless - ing of be - long - ing.
Son with the Fa - ther and the Spir - it.

Refrain



So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord,



and with one heart we'll live out his word,



till the whole earth sees the Re - deem - er has come,



for he dwells in the pres - ence of his peo - ple.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Minister: Pastor Bart Brauer

Accompanist: Joanna Grassell

Acknowledgements

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Sunday education

Sunday education for all ages begins at 9:15.

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.

Voters’ meeting

There is a voters’ meeting today at 11:45 after second service.

Call meeting

There will be a call meeting on Sunday, December 14, after second service. We will be calling a 6th-grade teacher.

Christmas service invitations

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

Men's Bible study

The next men's Bible study will be on Saturday, December 13, at 8:00 a.m.

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 three rehearsals immediately following late church service. You are invited to participate in whichever service you plan to attend or both.

Rehearsals:

December 7,14: Ladies and handbells at 11:45 a.m., all including men immediately after voter's meeting/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.

Collection boxes are available at school in the main building hallway, the Early Learning Center hallway, and near the gym classrooms. 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 11:45 a.m. Voters' meeting

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