



December 8, 2024

Trinity Lutheran Church and School

40 West Nicholai Street

Hicksville, New York 11801

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Mission Statement

*Trinity is a caring family where people gather
to know, worship, serve, and share Jesus.*

Second Sunday of Advent

Welcome

In this month of December, we find ourselves getting ready and preparing for many things, such as gatherings with family and friends, gifts to get and give to others, traditional treats to be made, and decorations for the season. The foremost preparation, of course, is for our Savior's birth. Today we are reminded of another time of preparation that would be after Jesus' birth and prior to His earthly ministry—that of John the Baptist, who would prepare for the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. In our busy times of preparing to celebrate this season, today we draw our focus on and give thanks for the one who would raise valleys, level mountains, and make straight the paths for Him.

Holy Communion

We believe that Christ's body and blood are truly present in Holy Communion, and that we receive the forgiveness of sins along with the bread and wine in this Holy Meal. As a "Family Church," we invite those who share this understanding, and who desire God's forgiveness and strength, to join with us in receiving Holy Communion. If you have any questions, please speak to the pastor at any time. Non-alcoholic white wine is offered as part of Holy Communion. The cups are in the center of the serving trays. Gluten free wafers are also available, just let the pastor know. All worshippers are asked to fill out the "Fellowship Pad" in the pew and pass it down. After all have signed, please leave the pad at the end of the pew to be picked up after worship. Please stand where indicated with a ❖. Thank you!

PRELUDE 'Variations on "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"' - Burkhardt

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

❖ **OPENING HYMN** "Comfort, Comfort Ye My People" LSB 347



1 "Com - fort, com - fort ye My peo - ple, Speak ye peace," thus
2 Yea, her sins our God will par - don, Blot - ting out each
3 Hark, the her - ald's voice is cry - ing In the des - ert
4 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed; Make the rough - er



saith our God; "Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness, Mourn - ing
dark mis - deed; All that well de - served His an - ger He no
far and near, Call - ing sin - ners to re - pen - tance, Since the
plac - es plain. Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, As be -



'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem
more will see or heed. She hath suf - fered man - y a day,
King - dom now is here. O that warn - ing cry o - bey!
fits His ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry of the Lord



Of the peace that waits for them; Tell her that her
Now her griefs have passed a - way; God will change her
Now pre - pare for God a way; Let the val - leys
Now o'er earth is shed a - broad, And all flesh shall



sins I cov - er And her war - fare now is o - ver."
pin - ing sad - ness In - to ev - er - spring - ing glad - ness.
rise to meet Him And the hills bow down to greet Him.
see the to - ken That His Word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text and tune: Public domain

❖ INVOCATION

P *In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*

C **Amen.**

❖ ADVENT CONFESSIO AND ABSOLUTION

P *Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.*

C **Amen.**

Silence may be kept.

P *Most merciful God,*

C **I confess to you with my whole heart my neglect and forgetfulness of your commandments: my wrong thinking, speaking, and acting; the hurts I have**

done to others; and the good I have left undone. O God, forgive me, for I have sinned against you. Raise me to newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P *Hear this promise of Almighty God: He prepares in our hearts a royal highway for his Son's near approach, and cleanses us from all our sins. He drives away the darkness of sin and death, that we may behold the glory of his Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.*

C Amen.

❖ KYRIE



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

A *For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.*



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

A *For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.*



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

A *For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.*



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

A *Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.*



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

❖ PRAYER OF THE DAY

P *The Lord be with you.*

C **And also with you.**

P *Let us pray.*

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

PSALM 66:1-12

R *Shout for joy to God, all the earth;*

C **sing the glory of his name;
give to him glorious praise!**

R *Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!*

C **So great is your power that your enemies come cringing to you.**

R *All the earth worships you*

C **and sings praises to you;
they sing praises to your name."**

R *Come and see what God has done:*

C **he is awesome in his deeds toward the children of man.**

R *He turned the sea into dry land;*

C **they passed through the river on foot.**

R *There did we rejoice in him,*

C **who rules by his might forever,**

R *whose eyes keep watch on the nations—*

C **let not the rebellious exalt themselves.**

R *Bless our God, O peoples;*
C **let the sound of his praise be heard,**
R *who has kept our soul among the living*
C **and has not let our feet slip.**
R *For you, O God, have tested us;*
C **you have tried us as silver is tried.**
R *You brought us into the net;*
C **you laid a crushing burden on our backs;**
R *you let men ride over our heads;*
C **we went through fire and through water;**
R *yet you have brought us out to a place of abundance.*

ALL ***Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.***

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Advent Candle Prayer

R *Loving God, in this time of preparation and planning,
We thank you for the hope and peace you unfailingly offer us.
Show us the creative power of hope.
Teach us the peace that passes all human understanding.
Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you,
That we may walk in the light of Christ.*

C **Amen.**

CHILDREN ARE NOW DISMISSED TO ATTEND SUNDAY SCHOOL

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Malachi 3:1-7b

“Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. ²But 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. ³He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the Lord. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

⁵“Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who

oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts.

⁶“For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. ⁷From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the Lord of hosts.

R *This is the Word of the Lord.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

Philippians 1:2-11

²Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, ⁴always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, ⁵because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. ⁹And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

R *This is the Word of the Lord.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

❖ **ALLELUIA** (*Trinity Choir*) “Verse for Advent 2” – Cherwien

Alleluia! Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight His paths; all nations shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

❖ **HOLY GOSPEL**

Luke 3:1-14

P *The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the third chapter.*

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, ²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of

repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴ As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.

⁵ Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall become straight,

and the rough places shall become level ways,
⁶ and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

⁷ He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸ Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ⁹ Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

¹⁰ And the crowds asked him, “What then shall we do?” ¹¹ And he answered them, “Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.” ¹² Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, “Teacher, what shall we do?” ¹³ And he said to them, “Collect no more than you are authorized to do.” ¹⁴ Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what shall we do?” And he said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages.”

P *This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

❖ **HYMN**

“On Jordan’s Bank, the Baptist’s Cry”

LSB 344



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the
3 We hail Thee as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge
4 Lay on the sick Thy heal - ing hand And make the
△ 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,
 way for God with - in, And let us all our
 and our great re - ward; With - out Thy grace we
 fall - en strong to stand; Show us the glo - ry
 sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Glad tid - ings of 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.
 of Thy face Till beau - ty springs in ev - 'ry place.
 we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

Pastor Johnson Rethinasamy

+ Please turn and face your fellow members across the center aisle +

❖ APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

❖ PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

OFFERING

+ Please sign and pass the Fellowship Pad at this time +

Your gift to the Lord is an act of worship which shows your trust in God to provide for you and it shows your thankfulness for the blessings received.

† On your Mobile Phone: Send a text to 77977 and type in TLCLI. Follow the instructions to send your gift today or set up a recurring gift.

† Go to our website at www.TrinityHicksville.org to the “Giving” tab:



† Go directly to PushPay:



TRINITY CHOIR

“Behold, I Send My Messenger”

- Sedio

Behold, I send my messenger to prepare a way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming says the Lord of hosts. But who can abide the day of his coming? And who shall stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap; He will purify the children of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, till they present right offerings to the Lord. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of former years. Alleluia!

❖ OFFERTORY *What Shall I Render*



What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to



me? I will of-fer the sac-ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will



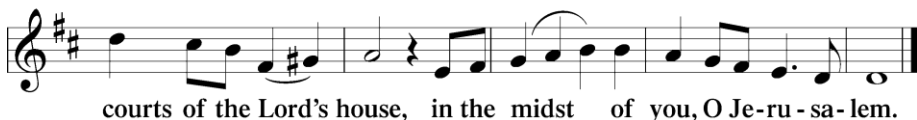
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo - ple, in the



courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je-ru - sa - lem.

THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

❖ PREFACE



P The Lord be with you.



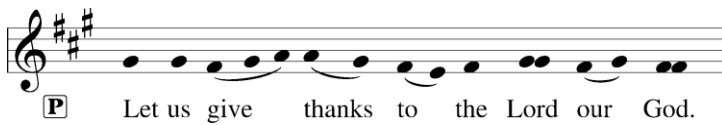
C And al-so with you.



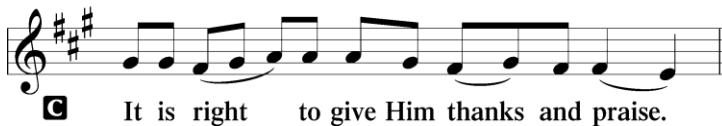
P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P *It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:*



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of
 pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your
 glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is He who comes in the name
 of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

❖ THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My \dagger body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My \dagger blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

❖ PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

P *As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.*

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

❖ 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.

❖ **AGNUS DEI** *Lamb of God*

C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world;
 have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
 sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of
 God, You take a-way the sin of the world;
 grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS "Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come" **LSB 350**

1 Come, Thou pre-cious Ran-som, come, On-ly hope for
 2 En-ter now my wait-ing heart, Glo-rious King and
 3 My ho-san-nas and my palms Gra-cious-ly re-
 4 Hail! Ho-san-na, Da-vid's Son! Je-sus, hear our
 sin-ful mor-tals! Come, O Sav-ior of the world!
 Lord most ho-ly. Dwell in me and ne'er de-part,
 ceive, I pray Thee; Ev-er-more, as best I can,
 sup-pli-ca-tion! Let Thy king-dom, scep-ter, crown,



O - pen are to Thee all por - tals. Come, Thy beau - ty
 Though I am but poor and low - ly. Ah, what rich - es
 Sav - ior, I will hom - age pay Thee, And in faith I
 Bring us bless - ing and sal - va - tion, That for - ev - er



let us see; Anx - ious - ly we wait for Thee.
 will be mine When Thou art my guest di - vine!
 will em - brace, Lord, Thy mer - it through Thy grace.
 we may sing: Hail! Ho - san - na to our King.

Text and tune: Public domain

“Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming”

LSB 359



1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing From ten - der stem hath
 2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, The rose I have in
 3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der With sweet - ness fills the
 4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, Who felt our hu - man



sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing As proph - ets long have
 mind; With Mar - y we be - hold it, The vir - gin moth - er
 air, Dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor The dark - ness ev - 'ry -
 woe; O Sav - ior, King of glo - ry, Who dost our weak - ness



sung, It came, a flow - 'ret bright, A - mid the
 kind. To show God's love a - right, She bore to
 where. True man, yet ver - y God, From sin and
 know: Bring us at length we pray To the bright



cold of win - ter, When half - spent was the night.
 us a Sav - ior, When half - spent was the night.
 death He saves us And light - ens ev - 'ry load.
 courts of heav - en, And to the end - less day.

Text and tune: Public domain

❖ **NUNC DIMITTIS** *Song of Simeon*



C Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful-



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which You have pre-



pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -



veal You to the na - tions and the glo - ry of Your peo - ple Is - ra - el.



Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

❖ **CLOSING PRAYER**

P *Let us pray.*

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

❖ **BENEDICTION**

P *The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.*

C Amen.

祭司的祝福 6 : 24-26 Mandarin

24 ‘愿耶和華賜福給你，保護你； 25 愿耶和華笑顏垂顧你，施恩給你； 26 愿耶和華恩待你，賜你平安。’ 27 他們要奉我的名為以色列人祝福，我必賜福給他們。”

எண்ணாகமம் 6: 24-26 Tamil

24. **கர்த்தர்** உன்னை ஆசீர்வதித்து, உன்னைக் காக்கக்கடவர். 25. **கர்த்தர்** தம்முடைய முகத்தை உன்மேல் பிரகாசிக்கப்பண்ணி, உன்மேல் கிருபையாயிருக்கக்கடவர். 26. **கர்த்தர்** தம்முடைய முகத்தை உன்மேல் பிரசன்னமாக்கி, உனக்குச் சமாதானம் கட்டளையிடக்கடவர்,

CLOSING HYMN

“Prepare the Royal Highway”

LSB 343



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; The King of kings is near!
2 God's peo - ple, see Him com - ing: Your own e - ter - nal king!
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen To greet your prom - ised king!
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; It comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley A lev - el road ap - pear!
Palm branch - es strew be - fore Him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion Its trib - ute too should bring.
His rule is peace and free - dom And jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of Glo - ry Fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
All lands, bow down be - fore Him! All na - tions, now a - dore Him!
So let your praise be sound - ing For kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



Refrain
Ho - san - na to the Lord, For He ful - fills God's Word!

❖ DISMISSAL

P *Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.*

C **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

"Prepare the Royal Highway"

- Ore

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How It Works:

1. **Donate:** Every donation you make will be matched, doubling the value.
2. **Spread the Word:** Encourage friends and family to participate in this incredible opportunity
3. **Make a Difference:** Your doubled donation will significantly enhance our ministries at Trinity (Tuition Support, Church Members Care and Support, Church Worker Wellness, Comfort Dog Ministry, and Future New Missions.)
Start helping us to better serve our community.

**Every \$50 you donate becomes \$100,
Every \$100 donation becomes \$200, and so on.**

**You can donate online, memo it to matching gift challenge,
use the QR code below or mail a check.**

**Join us in this challenge and watch your generosity go twice as far.
Together, we can make a lasting impact!**

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to our mission.

Sincerely,

Pastor Johnson Rethinasamy

**Trinity Lutheran Church and School
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Hicksville, N.Y. 11801
www.TrinityHicksville.org
(516) 931-2225**



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to give
online

