

December 22, 2024

Trinity Lutheran Church and School

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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.***

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Welcome

The Advent season of preparing for the promised Savior to be born as one of us soon reaches its climax. Though in our homes and lives we may be wondering if we have done all we have needed to get ready for our own celebrations, we give thanks that at the center of our coming Christmas observations the Lord has prepared all we need. In this last Sunday of Advent and in the days ahead of anticipated Christmas joy, may we find peace in the preparations done freely for us out of grace, mercy, and perfect love centered on the Savior we soon welcome, who was born for us and all the world.

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

"Rorate Coeli"

- Demessieux

(Drop down ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness)

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

❖ OPENING HYMN

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

LBW 34

Oh come, Oh come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel.

Oh come, Oh come, great Lord of might,
Who to your tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times once gave the law
In cloud, and majesty, and awe. *Refrain*

Oh, come, strong Branch of Jesse, free,
Your own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell your people save
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave. *Refrain*

Oh, come, blest Dayspring come and cheer,
Our spirits by your advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight. *Refrain*

Oh, come, O Key of David, come,
And open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery. *Refrain*

❖ 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.**

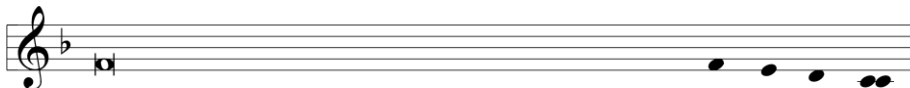
P *Hear this promise of Almighty God: He prepares in our hearts a royal highway for his Son's near approach, and cleanses us from all our sins. He drives away the darkness of sin and death, that we may behold the glory of his Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.*

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 Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

PSALM 80:1-7

R **Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,**

C *you who lead Joseph like a flock.*

R **You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.**

C *Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh,*

R **stir up your might**

C *and come to save us!*

R **Restore us, O God;**

C *let your face shine, that we may be saved!*

R **O LORD God of hosts,**

C *how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?*

R **You have fed them with the bread of tears**

C *and given them tears to drink in full measure.*

R **You make us an object of contention for our neighbors,**

C *and our enemies laugh among themselves.*

R **Restore us, O God of hosts;**

C *let your face shine, that we may be saved!*

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, we open ourselves to you this Christmas season.*

As these candles are lit, light our lives with your imagination.

Show us the creative power of hope.

Teach us the peace that passes all human understanding.

Fill us with the kind of joy that cannot be contained, but must be shared.

*Magnify your love within us.
Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you,
That we may walk in the light of Christ. Amen.*

C Amen.

CHILDREN ARE NOW DISMISSED TO ATTEND SUNDAY SCHOOL

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Micah 5:2-5a

² But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,
who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to be ruler in Israel,
whose coming forth is from of old,
from ancient days.

³ Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has given birth;
then the rest of his brothers shall return
to the people of Israel.

⁴ And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord,
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.
And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth.

⁵ And he shall be their peace.

R *This is the Word of the Lord.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

Hebrews 10:5-10

⁵ Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,

“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body have you prepared for me;

⁶ in burnt offerings and sin offerings
you have taken no pleasure.

⁷ Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come to do your will, O God,
as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.’”

⁸ 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), ⁹ then he added, “Behold, I have come to do your will.” He does away with the first

in order to establish the second. ¹⁰ And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

R *This is the Word of the Lord.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

❖ **ALLELUIA** (*Trinity Choir*) “Verse for Advent 4” – Cherwien

Alleluia! A virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel. Alleluia!

❖ **HOLY GOSPEL** Luke 1:39-45

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

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

³⁹ In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, ⁴⁰ and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, ⁴² and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! ⁴³ And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.”

P *This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

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

❖ **HYMN** “The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came” LSB 356



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
2 “For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,
3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;
4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born



With wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:
All gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;
“To me be as it pleas - eth God,” she said.
In Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



“All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,
 Thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
 “My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God’s ho - ly name.”
 And Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say:



Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy.” Glo - ri - a!
 Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy.” Glo - ri - a!
 Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!
 “Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy.” Glo - ri - a!

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

“A Parish Magnificat”

– Schalk

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed. The Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation. My soul proclaims... He has shown the strength of his arm; he has scattered the proud in their conceit. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has lifted up the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent empty away. My soul proclaims... He has come to the help of his servant Israel, for he has remembered his promise of mercy, the promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children forever. My soul proclaims... Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. My soul proclaims...

❖ **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 presence of all His people, 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, as we are called as Your own in love. Through the old covenant that You established, which*

points to and was fulfilled in the Savior, whose birth we await and through the grace of the new covenant that You established, strengthen us in faith that we be made holy by the bodily sacrifice of Jesus, which we share together at this altar in the Sacrament of His true body and blood, given and shed for us. 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 † 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 † 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

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

LSB 361



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!
2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, And, gath - ered all a - bove
3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly The won - drous gift is giv'n!
4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, De - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep The si - lent stars go by;
 While mor-tals sleep, the an - gels keep Their watch of won-d'ring love.
 So God im-parts to hu - man hearts The bless-ings of His heav'n.
 Cast out our sin, and en - ter in, Be born in us to - day.



Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The ev - er - last - ing light.
 O morn-ing stars, to - geth - er Pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
 No ear may hear His com - ing; But in this world of sin,
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels The great glad tid - ings tell;



The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to - night.
 And prais - es sing to God the king And peace to all the earth!
 Where meek souls will re - ceive Him, still The dear Christ en - ters in.
 O come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Text and tune: Public domain

“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

LSB 338



1 Come, Thou long - ex - spect-ed Je - sus, Born to set Thy peo - ple free;
 2 Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv - er; Born a child and yet a king!



From our fears and sins re - lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
 Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con-so - la - tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,
 By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
 By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

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 “The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns” LSB 348



- 1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light tri - um-phant breaks,
- 2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, To bear and fight and die,
- 3 Oh, bright-er than the ris - ing morn When Christ, vic - to-rious, rose
- 4 Oh, bright-er than that glo - rious morn Shall dawn up - on our race
- 5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light and beau - ty brings.



When beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills And life to joy a-wakes.
But crowned with glo - ry like the sun That lights the morn-ing sky.
And left the lone-some place of death De - spite the rage of foes.
The day when Christ in splen-dor comes And we shall see His face.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: Come quick-ly, King of kings!

Text and tune: Public domain

❖ DISMISSAL

- P** *Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.*
- C** **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

"Fuga sopra il Magnificat"

- Bach

Verse for Advent 4: From "Verses for the Sundays in Advent" by David M. Cherwien. Copyright 1987, Morning Star Music Publishers, St. Louis, MO.

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2. **Spread the Word:** Encourage friends and family to participate in this incredible opportunity
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Join us in this challenge and watch your generosity go twice as far.
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Thank you for your continued support and dedication to our mission.

Sincerely,

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Please scan to give online

