

# FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

THE HOLY EUCHARIST AT 10:00 AM

DECEMBER 26, 2021



*As on the first day of creation, in this Christmas season the Word illumines the world, shining forth to bring all things into being. Today we celebrate the incarnate Word, God becoming flesh to live among us in the person of Jesus Christ then and now. Emboldened by the good news of Christ's birth, along with the shepherds, Mary and Joseph, and all witnesses to the light of Christ, we declare to the world that we have indeed seen and been transformed by the arrival of "the salvation of our God." O come, let us adore!*

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**527 WASHINGTON STREET READING, PA 19601**

**(610) 374-4861    [www.trinityreading.org](http://www.trinityreading.org)**

*Masks must be worn at all times.*

*Please maintain appropriate distancing between households and use hand sanitizer.*



**WE WELCOME YOU** to historic Trinity Church. We are blessed by your presence and pray God's richest blessing upon you. We invite you to receive the Risen Christ at the Lord's Table. Those not communing may come forward to receive a blessing.

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED** in finding out more about Trinity or are considering membership, please contact the church office at (610) 374-4861.

**LARGE PRINT VERSIONS OF THE WORSHIP BULLETIN** are available each week in the narthex. If all are in use, please let an usher know, and we will produce more the following week.



*Affirmation of Welcome: Trinity Lutheran Church is recognized by Reconciling Works as a "Reconciling in Christ" Congregation which welcomes all LGBTQ+ persons into all facets of congregational life.*

# THE HOLY EUCHARIST

**P** Presiding Minister    **A** Assisting Minister    **C** Congregation

## CARILLON

## WELCOME

## PRELUDE

Angels We Have Heard on High

Arr. Victor Labenske

Sandra Sittler and Karen Eddinger, piano

*Please stand as you are able.*

## INVOCATION

**P** We gather in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen

## GATHERING HYMN

292 Love Has Come

UN FLAMBEAU

## DIALOGUE

**P** The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

**C** **The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.**

**P** Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

**C** **We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.**

**P** For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

**C** **In him was life, and the life was the light of all people.**

**P** May the grace and truth of Christ be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P** All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace. Call us out of darkness, and empower us to proclaim the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen**

*Be seated.*

**FIRST READING:** Isaiah 52:7-10

*The reading concludes:*

**A** Word of God, word of life.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## **HYMN SING**

*Worshippers will choose favorite Christmas hymns.*

**SECOND READING:** Hebrews 1:1-4

*The reading concludes:*

**A** Word of God, word of life.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## **HYMN SING**

*Worshippers will choose favorite Christmas hymns.*

*Please stand as you are able.*

**GOSPEL READING:** Luke 2:8-20

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

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

*After the reading:*

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Be seated.*

**HYMN SING**

*Worshippers will choose favorite Christmas hymns.*

*Please stand as you are able.*

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION.**

**A** Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence. Each petition concludes:*

**A** Merciful God,

**C** **receive our prayer.**

*After the final response:*

**P** Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C** **Amen**

## PEACE

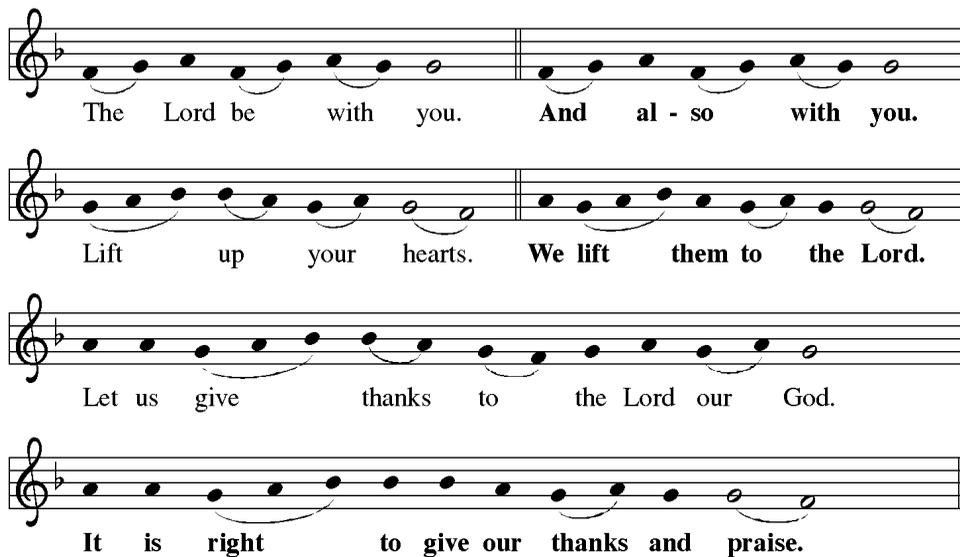
- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C** And also with you.

*Please greet one another from a distance and then remain standing as you are able.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

- A** Let us pray. Gracious God,  
**C** your Word made flesh brings harmony to the earth.  
As we offer ourselves and these your gifts,  
prepare us to receive the grace and truth you offer at this table  
and renew in us the song of your salvation,  
in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen

## GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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

**P** It is indeed right, ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord most ho - ly, God of pow'r and God of might:



heav'n and earth re - veal your glo - ry. Hail, ho - san - na, Lord of light!



Bless - ed be the com - ing Sav - ior. Hail, ho - san - na, Lord of light!

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

**P** Holy One...Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**C** Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

**P** With this bread and cup...We look with hope for his coming.

**C** Come, Lord Jesus.

**P** Holy God...Bring us the gift of peace on earth.

**C** Come, Holy Spirit.

**P** All praise and glory...one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

- P** Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:
- C** **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**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- P** In Christ's manger, at Christ's table, come, see what God makes known for you.
- C** Amen

*Be seated.*

## LAMB OF GOD



O Lamb of God, O Ho - ly Child, who takes the sin of the world a - way;



Have mer - cy on us, Lamb so mild, the Babe, the Son of Mar - y.



This, this is your bod - y giv'n, your pre - cious blood, the gift of heav'n.



Take, eat, for we are one in the Babe, the Son of Mar - y.

## **DISTRIBUTION**

*We invite all who wish to receive the Risen Christ in this meal to join us at the Lord's table. Coming to the altar, following the direction of the usher, be sure to maintain a safe distance between households. If you are in need of a gluten-free wafer or would prefer grape juice to wine, please ask your server. Returning to your seat, please deposit the used glass in the baskets provided. Those not receiving the sacrament may come forward for a blessing. If you are unable to come to the altar for communion, tell the usher and the sacrament can be brought to you. God bless you with the bread of heaven and the cup of salvation!*

*After all have received Communion, please stand as you are able.*

## **TABLE BLESSING**

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C** Amen

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

- A** Let us pray. We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus, God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine. As we have shared this feast of love, strengthen us to share your love with all the world. In Jesus' name we pray.
- C** Amen

## **BLESSING**

- P** The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through † Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh.
- C** Amen

## SENDING HYMN

288 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

IN DULCI JUBILO

## DISMISSAL

☞ Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior.

☞ **Thanks be to God!**

## POSTLUDE

Joy to the World

George Friedrich Handel/Arr. Fred Bock

Sandra Sittler, piano

Karen Eddinger, organ





# The People of Trinity Church, *Ministers*

## **PROGRAM STAFF**

The Rev. Alan Wolkenhauer  
Deaconess Deborah Matern Graf  
Karen S. Eddinger, *Minister of Music*  
Dee Horst, *Community Outreach*

## **PARTNER IN MINISTRY**

The Rev. Tom Scornavacchi, *Pastor-Mission Developer, Common Ground Ministry*  
Vicar Melissa Hrdlicka, *Common Ground Ministry Pastoral Intern*

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The Rev. Elton P. Richards, *Pastor Emeritus*  
The Rev. Fred S. Opalinski, *Pastor Emeritus*

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