



Welcome to
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Presentation of Our Lord
February 2, 2025



*The Presentation in the Temple (1501)
Hans Holbein the Elder (1460-1524)*

The senior Holbein paints Jesus as He is presented in the Temple in Jerusalem. Holbein was a masterful realist, and in true Renaissance style includes Hebrew text on the sign behind Mary. Yet he also includes modern elements: luxurious silks from the Low Countries, a cardinal in the corner, and two burning candles held by a priest.

WELCOME TO TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

FOUNDED IN 1751

*The Rev. Hans E.
Becklin*
SENIOR PASTOR

*Deaconess Deborah
Matern Graf*
DEACON FOR
FORMATION
AND SERVICE

*Dr. Cameron
Lee Wentz*
CANTOR

Matthew Mellen
DIRECTOR OF
TECHNOLOGY AND
COMMUNICATION

Rachel Gambone
CONGREGATIONAL LIFE
COORDINATOR

Peter Graf
FINANCIAL
ADMINISTRATOR

Pam Wasmuth
BOOKEEPER

John McKeon
PROPERTY MANAGER

Dave Troche
SEXTON



*The Rev. Fred S.
Opalinski*
PASTOR EMERITUS

*Karen S.
Eddinger*
MINISTER OF MUSIC
EMERITA



THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY as we worship God through word and sacrament in this landmark building, home to our congregation since 1791. Our liturgy is rooted in tradition; all are welcome to participate as they feel comfortable.

TRINITY IS A VIBRANT CONGREGATION with members from around Berks County and beyond. If you are interested in learning more about membership, speak with a member of our staff.



DURING WORSHIP, we pray, sing, listen, chant, read, and move our bodies. Please silence your cell phone so as not to disturb this rich experience for yourself or others.

THE HIGHLIGHT OF OUR WORSHIP is receiving the Eucharist, the true Body and Blood of Christ. All who trust that Jesus is present in this holy meal are invited to receive Him with us today. Detailed instructions for communion can be found on page 19 of the bulletin.



CHILDREN ARE ALWAYS WELCOME in our worship! A changing table can be found in the all-gender restroom on the first floor. Our Meditation Room has space for nursing or a sensory break. Restrooms can be found on the first floor and are accessible by elevator. Our AED is mounted on the wall in the stairway next to the baptismal font.



WE WELCOME ALL LGBTQ+ people as full participants in our common life. We're proud to proclaim this publicly in our city and wider church as a Reconciling in Christ congregation.

OUR WORSHIP IS AN ACT OF OFFERING. By being here, we present ourselves and our time to God.

WE ALSO PRESENT our tithes and monetary offerings to God. During the offertory procession, they are brought forward along with the bread and wine used for the Eucharist.

WE NO LONGER pass an offering plate in the pew. However, an offering plate for cash or checks is available in the narthex. You can also share your offering electronically using this QR code.



THE HOLY EUCHARIST AT 10:00 AM

Congregational words are in bold print.

*Stand in body or
spirit and face the
processional cross.*

*All may make the
sign of the cross, the
sign that is marked
at baptism, as the
presiding minister
begins.*

*Silence is kept for
reflection.*

INTROIT

Calm is the Night

Weston Priory

Maria Yost, Soprano

BLESSING OF CANDLES

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,

Fill us with radiance and scatter the darkness from our path.

Christ, the Sun of Righteousness,

Gladden our eyes and warm our hearts.

Christ, the Dayspring from on high

Draw near to us and guide our feet into the way of peace.

Let us pray.

Gracious creator, almighty and eternal
God, you made all things out of
nothing, and by your command caused
the labor of bees to be revealed in the
perfection of wax. You commanded
your servant Moses to keep lamps
continually burning before you.

Bless and sanctify these candles that
their light may be for us a visible
reminder of the true light who
enlightens everyone coming into the
world. As these candles, kindled with

a visible flame, scatter the darkness
of night, so also may our hearts be
enlightened by the invisible fire of the
Holy Spirit that we might avoid the
darkness of sin, see your salvation, and
attain to the Light that never fades
away. All this we ask through Jesus
Christ, who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, One God, for ever
and ever.

Amen.

*Continue to face the
processional cross,
turning when
it passes you.*

GATHERING HYMN

O God of Light

ELW 507



1 O God of light, your word, a lamp un - fail - ing,
2 From days of old, through blind and will - ful a - ges,
3 Un - dimmed by time, those words are still re - veal - ing
4 To all the world your sum - mons you are send - ing,



shall pierce the dark - ness of our earth - bound way
though we re - belled, you gent - ly sought a - gain,
to sin - ful hearts your jus - tice and your grace;
through all the earth, to ev - 'ry land and race,

Text: Sarah E. Taylor,
1883-1954, alt.

Music: ATKINSON,
H. Barrie Cabena, b.
1933



and show your grace, your plan for us un - veil - ing,
and spoke through saints, a - pos - tles, proph - ets, sa - ges,
and quest - ing spir - its, long - ing for your heal - ing,
that myr - iad tongues, in one great an - them blend - ing,

Text © 1952, ren. 1980
The Hymn Society,
admin. Hope Publishing
Company, Carol Stream,
IL 60188.

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Music © 1978 Lutheran
Book of Worship, admin.
Augsburg Fortress.



and guide our foot - steps to the per - fect day.
who wrote with ea - ger or re - luc - tant pen.
see your com - pas - sion in the Sav - ior's face.
may praise and cel - e - brate your gift of grace.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

*We praise God using
this ancient prayer
from Setting Three in
Evangelical Lutheran
Worship.*

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

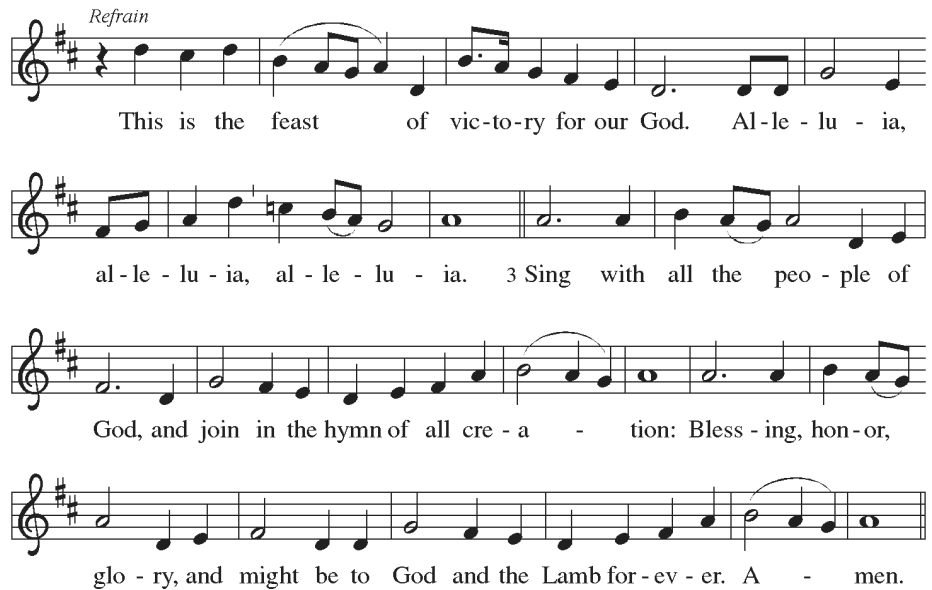
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Continues on
the next page...*

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of
God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,
glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was
slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*This prayer relates
to the readings
appointed for the day
and asks for God's
help in applying them
to our lives.*

Please be seated.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, your only-begotten Son was presented this day in the temple. May we be presented to you with clean and pure hearts by the same Jesus Christ, our great high

priest, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING

Malachi 3:1-4

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But 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; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, [Jesus] himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham.

Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

TEACHING TIME FOR ALL GOD’S CHILDREN

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Please stand
in body or spirit.*

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

“Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.”

And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

Pastor Hans E. Becklin

*Please stand
in body or spirit.*

HYMN OF THE DAY

In His Temple Now Behold Him

LBW 184



1 In his tem - ple now be - hold him, see the long - ex - pect - ed Lord;
2 In the arms of her who bore him, vir - gin pure, be - hold him lie,
3 Je - sus, by your pre - sen - ta - tion, when they blest you, weak and poor,



an - cient proph - ets had fore - told him, God has now ful - filled his word.
while his a - ged saints a - dore him, ere in per - fect faith they die.
make us see your great sal - va - tion, seal us with your prom - ise sure;

Text: Henry J. Pye,
1825-1903, alt.

Music: LINDSBORG,
Robert Leaf, b. 1936



Now to praise him, his re - deem - ed shall break forth with one ac - cord.
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Lo, the in - car - nate God Most High!
and pre - sent us, in your glo - ry, to your Fa - ther, cleansed and pure.

Music © Augsburg
Publishing House,
admin.
Augsburg Fortress

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,
God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand
of the Father,
and he will come to judge
the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*After a brief silence
each petition
concludes:*

God, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Into your hands we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy, through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

*After the final
petition:*

IN OUR PRAYERS

IN IMMEDIATE NEED

- ♦ Peg Coleman
- ♦ Barbara Lykens
- ♦ Rachel Gambone

ONGOING NEEDS

- ♦ the Sawyer family
- ♦ David Unruh
(brother of Ralph
Unruh)
- ♦ Harry Feinauer
- ♦ Linda Motley
- ♦ Walter Schur
- ♦ Christine Wells
(friend of Jan
Opalinski)
- ♦ Darryl Jeffries
- ♦ Nancy Souders-
Negri and Fred
Negri

TRINITY HOUSEHOLDS

- ♦ Debbie, Keith,
Kristen & Kurt
Schmehl
- ♦ Sara Schrum
- ♦ Walter Schur
- ♦ Holly Shaffer
- ♦ Cindy & Holt
Sheirich

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

*Please greet one
another and then
be seated.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY

He Comes to Us

The Trinity Choir

Jane Marshall

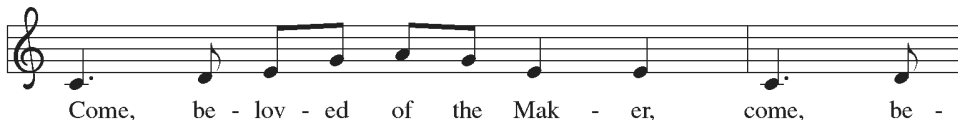
*The offering, bread,
and wine are
brought forward
and the altar is set.*

*Please stand
in body or spirit.*

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Come, Beloved of the Maker

ELW306



Text: Susan Palo
Cherwien, b. 1953

Music: JILL, David
Cherwien, b. 1957



Text © 2001 Susan
Palo Cherwien, admin.
Augsburg Fortress.



Music © 2002
Augsburg Fortress.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of grace, your love reaches to the
heavens, and your abundance to the
depths of the seas.

Bless what we offer to your service:

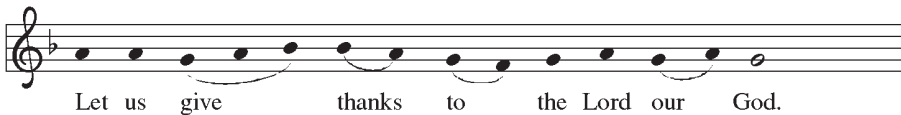
our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.

Let us overflow with gratitude and
generosity, now and always.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

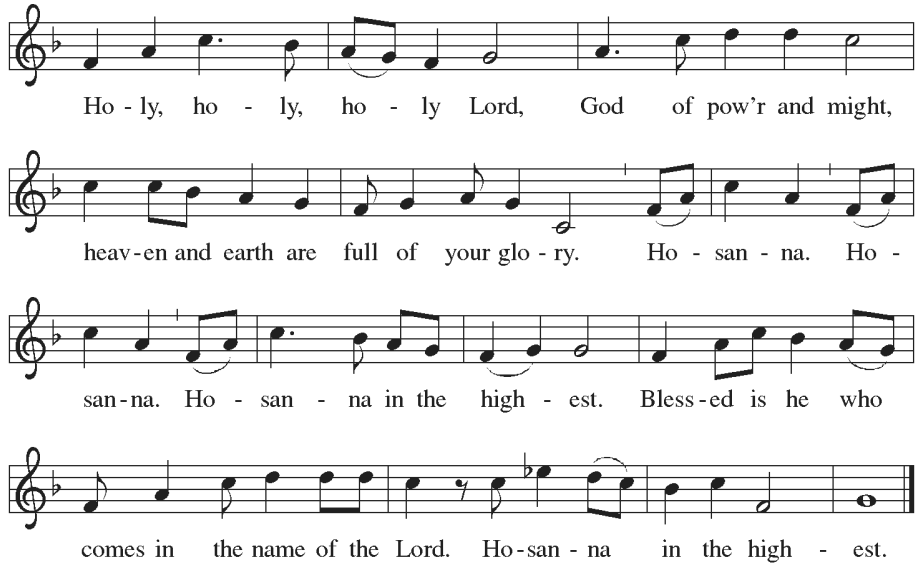
*The presider greets the
assembly and invites
all to give thanks.*



PROPER PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. 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.

*During the Words of
Institution, the bread
and wine are elevated
for the congregation
to revere and adore
Christ's presence in
our midst.*

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal...
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Son...
all our sins and sorrows will be no more.
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, holy and merciful one, holy and compassionate...
sharing your bounty with all the world.
Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Holy and benevolent God, receive our praise...
in your holy church, now and forever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

*Silence is kept as the
bread is broken.*

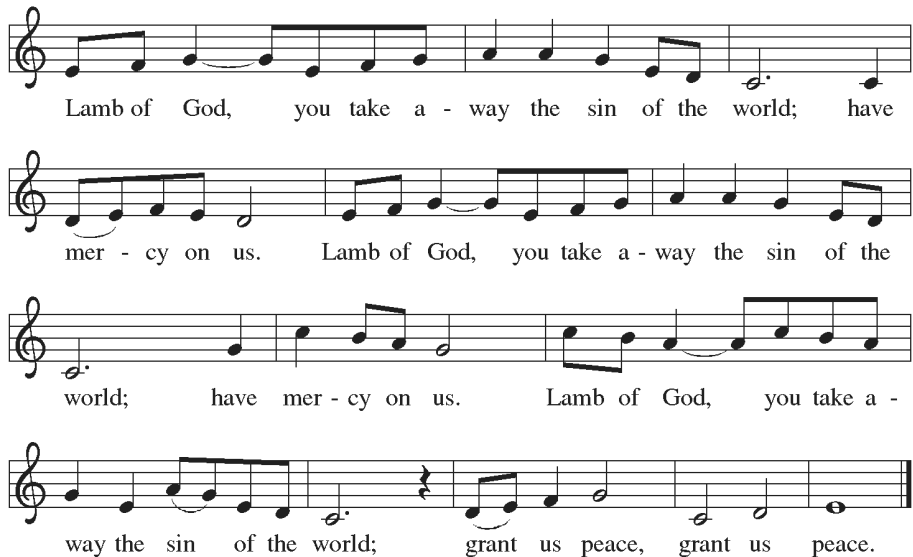
Please be seated.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The joy of the Lord is our strength.
Come, eat this meal of gladness.

LAMB OF GOD

*Detailed instructions
for communion can
be found on page 19.*



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.

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION

*This hymn can be
found in the red
hymnal.*

Beloved, God's Chosen

ELW 648

TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Nourishing God,
at this table you have refreshed us
with holy gifts of food and drink.
Strengthen us for service, and send us
out to embody your good news

of liberation and healing for the
sake of the world.

In the name of Christ we pray,

Amen.

INSTALLATION OF DR. CAMERON LEE WENTZ AS CANTOR

*Amy Litvinov,
president of the
Vestry, presents
Dr. Wentz.*

After prayerful deliberation,
the Vestry of Trinity Lutheran Church
has appointed Dr. Cameron Lee Wentz
to serve in the position of Cantor.

*Pastor Hans
addresses
Dr. Wentz.*

Our Lord Jesus, who came among us as a servant, calls us to faith and a life of loving
service to our neighbor. You come among us as one invited to render a particular
service, a gift from God to inspire us to love and good works.

Cameron, in the presence of this assembly
will you commit yourself to this new trust and responsibility,
in the confidence that it comes from God?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you carry out this ministry in accordance with the holy scriptures
and with the confessions of the Lutheran church
and in harmony with the constitutions
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you be diligent in your study of the holy scriptures
and faithful in your use of the means of grace and in prayer?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Trusting in God's care,
will you seek to grow in love for those you serve,
strive for excellence in your skills,
and adorn the gospel of Jesus Christ with a godly life?
I will, and I ask God to help me.

Almighty God, who has given you the will to do these things,
graciously give you the strength and compassion to perform them.
Amen.

Please stand.

People of God, will you receive Cameron into this ministry
as one sent to serve in the church of Jesus Christ?
We will, and we ask God to help us.

Will you pray for him, help and honor him for his work's sake,
and in all things strive to live together in the peace and unity of Christ?
We will, and we ask God to help us.

*Pastor Hans
addresses
Dr. Wentz.*

Cameron, I now declare you installed as Cantor of Trinity Lutheran Church.

Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace,
that you may be a faithful servant of Christ.
Amen.

Let us pray.

O God of majesty, whom saints and angels delight to worship: Strengthen and bless
your servant Cameron who, through your gift of music and art seeks to enliven
our praises and proclaim your word with power. Through this ministry give us new
awareness of your beauty and grace, and join our voices with all the choirs of heaven;
through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

*As a sign of God's
blessing, you may
make the sign
of the cross.*

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Let All Together Praise Our God

ELW 287

*Face the processional
cross, turning as it
passes you.*

1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God be - fore the
2 From God's right hand the Son de - scends, is born an
3 O ten - der Child, you veil in flesh the splen - dor
4 Your moth - er feeds you ten - der - ly, sings you a

high - est throne; to - day God o - pens heav'n a - gain and
in - fant small, and lies in pov - er - ty, his bed a
of your might; a ser - vant's garb now wraps the one who
lul - la - by, while an - gels, hail - ing Da - vid's heir, your

sends the on - ly Son, and sends the on - ly Son.
man - ger in a stall, a man - ger in a stall.
clothed the sky with light, who clothed the sky with light.
glo - ry mag - ni - fy, your glo - ry mag - ni - fy.

5 A wonderful exchange you make:
you take our flesh and blood,
and in return give us to share
the shining realm of God,
the shining realm of God.

6 Unlock the door again today
that leads to paradise;
the angel bars the way no more.
To God let praises rise,
to God let praises rise!

Text: Nikolaus
Herman, 1480--1561;
tr. hymnal version

Music: LOBT GOTT,
IHR CHRISTEN,
Nikolaus Herman

Text © 2006
Augsburg Fortress.

*You may remain
in the sanctuary
for prayer and
contemplation during
the postlude. If you
depart, please do so
quietly.*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live in hope.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

In Thee is Gladness

Michael Burkhardt

COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS



All who trust that Jesus Christ is present in this holy meal are invited to receive communion.

Please follow the direction of the usher; if your pew is located on one of the side aisles, walk to the rear of the sanctuary. Two lines will form in the center aisle. The left line will commune at the left side of the altar rail; the right line will commune on the right side.



When you reach the front of the sanctuary, there are serving trays located on the tables. Please choose either an empty glass to receive wine, or, if you prefer, a prefilled glass in the center ring containing grape juice. After taking your cup, proceed to the rail. Fill in around the rail from the center to the ends. You may stand or kneel as is your preference.

The pastor will give you a piece of bread; eat it when you receive it. If you prefer a gluten free alternative, please inform the pastor.



Then, an assistant will come to offer wine from a pouring chalice. Please extend your glass to be filled with wine or indicate that you have grape juice. After drinking the wine or juice, you are welcome to remain in place for a moment of meditation.

After you finish your time of reflection, please return to your pew, depositing your empty glass in the trays located on the tables at the head of the side aisles.

LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

PRESIDING MINISTER

Pr. Hans E. Becklin

ASSISTING MINISTER

Fred Opalinski

CANTOR

Dr. Cameron Lee Wentz

LECTOR

Declan Rosenbaum

COMMUNION ASSISTANT

Pam Wasmuth

ACOLYTE

Danielle Smith

GREETER

Mae Sunderland

USHERS

Nancy Everson, Allison Kalbach

MEDIA TEAM

Grace Norton-Ritz, Abbie Smith,

Katherine Speece

ALTAR GUILD

Anita Dolak, David Himes &

Amy Stewart-Himes, Avery Mazur, Donna Osborne,

Amy Reinsel, Raye Watson

WORSHIP PLANNERS

Tom & Louise Souders

Today's flowers are sponsored by
Pastor Hans & Pastor Marissa Becklin
in loving memory of
Dr. Jay R. Becklin

Attendance Sunday, January 26:
Attendance, Wednesday, January 22:

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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2

9:00 AM

SUNDAY FORUM - All Saints Room
SUNDAY TIME- Meet in Chapel

10:00 AM

WORSHIP - Nave

11:15 AM

RECEPTION FOR DR. WENTZ - Hintz Room

2:00 PM

COMMON GROUND WORSHIP AND MEAL

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3

12:00 PM

ESL CONVERSATION DINNER PLANNING
All Saints Room

1:00 PM

PROGRAM STAFF MEETING

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

9:30 AM

STAFF MEETING

6:30 PM

TRINITY SERVES AT OPPORTUNITY HOUSE

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

12:05 PM

MID-WEEK CHAPEL WORSHIP

6:30 PM

TRINITY RINGERS - Bell Room

7:30 PM

TRINITY CHOIR - Hintz Room

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9

9:00 AM

SUNDAY FORUM - All Saints Room
SUNDAY TIME- Meet in Chapel

10:00 AM

WORSHIP - Nave

11:15 AM

MIXED ENSEMBLE REHEARSAL - Bard House
COFFEE & CONVERSATION - Hintz Room

2:00 PM

COMMON GROUND WORSHIP AND MEAL

STEEPLE NOTES

Steeple Notes is our bi-monthly news publication which includes news about our church community, updates on ministries and outreach programs, and articles that foster spiritual growth and connection.

Print editions are usually available in the Narthex. You may also read our digital edition by scanning this QR code.



“SOUPER” BOWL OF CARING

Sunday, February 9

Imagine if everyone watching the big game gave just one dollar to help neighbors in need? It isn't just for football fans. The Youth of Trinity will collect monetary donations to support the local work of Helping Harvest and the work of ELCA Disaster Response aiding those who continue to rebuild after hurricanes and fires. Look for the youth in the “end zone” in the Narthex and place donations in the giant soup pots!