



DECEMBER 27, 2009 ✕ 10:30 A.M.
FIRST SUNDAY IN CHRISTMAS

On the first Sunday of Christmas we find the boy Samuel and the boy Jesus, both in the temple, both growing in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and humankind. We too have returned to the house of God "to sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God," who has gifted us with a savior. As the festival continues, "let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts." It is Christmas, still.

Please turn off all cell phones and pagers before the liturgy begins.

* – those who are able may **stand**

Bold – all

This bulletin is available in large print

***To parents with small children:** We are glad your family is worshipping with us. We have a nursery available and it is open from 8:15 – 11:30 a.m. Please use the garden entrance (on Addison); the nursery is right inside the door. If you or your child need a break from the service, feel free to walk to the narthex/back of the church.*

GATHERING

The ringing of the meditation bowl calls us to silence, centering and reflection as we prepare for the liturgy.

PRELUDE – Variations on *Sussex Carol*

Raymond Haan

At the conclusion of the introduction to the hymn stand and face the rear of the nave. Turn to face the cross as it enters; you may bow as the cross passes, honoring the mystery of our salvation.

*GATHERING HYMN – #269 *Once in Royal David's City*

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

The presiding minister bows toward the assembly which is the body of Christ and the primary symbol of God's presence in the liturgy.

And also with you.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

WORD

FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 2:18–20, 26

Having dedicated her son Samuel to God's service, Hannah visits him every year when she and her husband, Elkanah, come to the Lord's house to offer sacrifices. God grants Hannah more children, and Samuel himself gains favor in the sight of all.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 148

The refrain is sung by the cantor and repeated by the assembly. Verses are sung alternating between the cantor and the assembly.

Refrain:



Tone:



Hallelujah! Praise the LORD¹ from the heavens;
praise God¹ in the heights.

**Praise the LORD,¹ all you angels;
sing praise, all you¹ hosts of heaven.**

Praise the LORD,¹ sun and moon;
sing praise, all you¹ shining stars.

**Praise the LORD, heav-¹en of heavens,
and you waters a-¹bove the heavens.**

Let them praise the name¹ of the LORD,
who commanded, and they¹ were created,
**who made them stand fast forev-¹er and ever,
giving them a law which shall not¹ pass away.**

Refrain

Praise the LORD¹ from the earth,
you sea monsters¹ and all deeps;
**fire and hail,¹ snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, do-¹ing God's will;**
mountains¹ and all hills,
fruit trees¹ and all cedars;
**wild beasts¹ and all cattle,
creeping things and¹ flying birds;**
sovereigns of the earth¹ and all peoples,
princes and all rulers¹ of the world;
**young¹ men and maidens,
old and¹ young together.**

Refrain

Let them praise the name ^l of the LORD,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over ^l earth and heaven.
**The LORD has raised up strength for the people
and praise for all ^l faithful servants,
the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. ^l Hallelujah!**

Refrain

SECOND READING: Colossians 3:12–17

Just as newly baptized Christians in the early church were clothed with white robes upon arising from the baptismal waters, so all who have received God's gift of life in Jesus Christ are covered with the character of Christ.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Stand to welcome the gospel and turn to face the book as the gospel is read in the midst of the assembly.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John Ferguson

Sung by the cantor then repeated by the assembly.



Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,
and let the word of Christ dwell in you richly. (Col. 3:15, 16)

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

*GOSPEL: Luke 2:41–52

Jesus grew up in a family that went to the Passover festival each year. It was in this environment of faithful adherence to the law that Jesus grew into spiritual maturity and an understanding of his identity and mission.

The holy gospel according to St. Luke.

As the gospel is announced you may trace a small cross on your forehead, lips and breast, a prayer that the Word may dwell in our minds, on our lips, and in our hearts.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

(sung as above) – Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

SERMON – *Getting Down to Business*

SILENCE

HYMN OF THE DAY – #287 *Let All Together Praise Our God*

Stanzas 1-3 – all
Stanza 4 – women
Stanza 5 – men
Stanza 6 – all

*NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

*PEACE

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

The assembly is invited to share God's peace with one another saying, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

MEAL

GATHERING OF GIFTS AND SETTING THE TABLE

Guests are invited to fill out the yellow slip and place it in the offering plate.

OFFERTORY HYMN – #268 *From Heaven Above: st. 1 – 3, 12 – 14*

*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.

The following acclamations are sung during the thanksgiving.




Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and



might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.



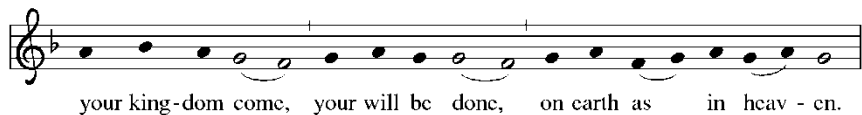
A - men, a - men, a - men.

As a sign of openness to the divine presence, you may join the presider in praying the Our Father with the ancient gesture of extended hands.

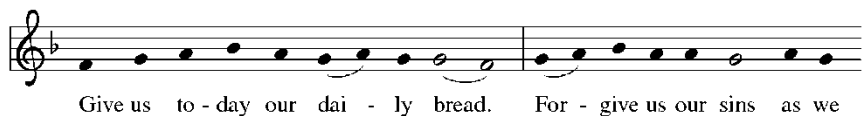
***THE LORD'S PRAYER**



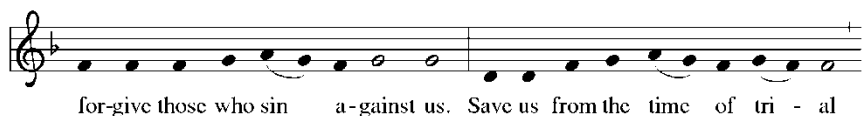
Our Fa-ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,



your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.



Give us to-day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we



for-give those who sin a- gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al



and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,



and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

***COMMUNION**

***LAMB OF GOD**



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.

Be seated.

All baptized Christians are welcome to commune. Others may come forward for a blessing. Communion will be by continuous line, and the bread will be placed in your hand (gluten-free wafers available from the pastor). The first (silver) chalice on each side is a common cup for drinking. The second chalice is for intinction (dipping the bread into the wine). Reception of the eucharist under one kind (bread or wine) is valid communion for those who must avoid either for health reasons.

COMMUNION MUSIC – *A Christmas Carol*

Arnold Bax

There is no rose of such virtue
As is the rose that bare Jesu;
Alleluia.
For in this rose contained was
Heaven and earth in little space;
Res miranda.
By that rose we may well see
That he is God in persons three,
Pari forma.
The angels sungen the shepherds to:
Gloria in excelsis deo:
Gaudeamus.
Then leave we all this worldly mirth,
And follow we this joyful birth;
Transeamus.

*PRAYER

SENDING

*BLESSING

Turn to face the cross as it recesses, you may bow as it passes, honoring the mystery of our salvation

*SENDING HYMN – #288 *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

*SENDING

Go in peace.
Thanks be God.

POSTLUDE – *From heaven above to earth I come*

J. S. Bach

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SERVING TODAY

PRESIDING MINISTER: Pr. Ben Stewart

PREACHING MINISTER: Pr. Craig M. Mueller

MINISTER OF MUSIC: David R. Brackley

ASSISTING MINISTER: Ryan LaHurd

CRUCIFER: Greg Zinkl

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Thomas Braham and Drew Knobloch

READERS: Patrice Macken and Dee Downing

MEDITATION BELL: Dorothy Klefstad

USHERS: Norm Kaiser, Ron Bogan, and Jason Pagels

GREETER: Patrice Macken

SACRISTAN: Kyle Severson

ALTAR PREPARATION: Drew Knobloch

NURSERY ASSISTANT: Elvina Moen

COFFEE HOSPITALITY: Jonathon Widener and Carol LaHurd

*Advent greens are given today by Richard Bough
and David Easterbrook in memory of Robert W. Lesh*

PARISH NOTES

ANNOUNCING NEW SCRIPTURE STUDY

If you are free during the day you are invited to participate in a scripture study of Luke, the gospel read in worship this year. Pastor Mueller will be leading the sessions which will be held Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. beginning January 14, 2010. There will be approximately 14 sessions but the schedule is flexible and we will cancel on days with snow or extreme cold. An optional “resource book” is available for \$20. You can browse a copy and/or sign-up at the back of the church. Feel free to talk to Pastor Mueller if you have any questions or concerns.

FLOWER SPONSORS NEEDED FOR THE NEW YEAR! See the flower signup sheet at the back of the church and write a check to Holy Trinity for \$32 with “flowers” in the memo line or give through our online giving found at our website.

NEXT BAPTISM DATE: January 10, 2010. See information brochure in the narthex.

NEXT NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION DATES: January 31, April 18, 2010. More info at our website: www.holytrinitychicago.org

CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30

7:00 p.m. Carol Sing and Simple Eucharist

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3

8:30 a.m. Worship; 9:30 a.m. Sunday School (no Adult Forum)

10:30 a.m. Festival Eucharist with Lessons and Carols for Christmas and Epiphany

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17

4:00 p.m. Music for Brass and Organ

Featuring the Artemis Brass and David Brackley, organ

COMMEMORATIONS

Sunday, December 27, 2009 – *John, Apostle and Evangelist*

The son of Zebedee and brother of James, John was one of the twelve disciples and witness to the transfiguration. Tradition has named him also the writer of the Gospel of John, the three New Testament letters bearing his name, as well as Revelation.

Monday, December 28 – *The Holy Innocents, Martyrs*

This day commemorates the young children killed by Herod in Bethlehem in his jealous attempt to murder the baby Jesus, a sobering reminder of the evil that led Christ to be born for our salvation.

Friday, January 1, 2010 – *Name of Jesus*

By Jewish law, every baby boy was circumcised and named on the eighth day of life, so on the eighth day of Christmas the church celebrates this event in Jesus' life. The keeping of the covenant as well as Jesus' name are signs of God's salvation given to us through him.

Saturday, January 2 – *Johann Konrad Wilhelm Loehe, renewer of the church, died 1872*

A nineteenth-century German Lutheran pastor, Loehe worked to enliven the church with the eucharist at its center, from which would flow evangelism and social ministry. He sent pastors to North America, Australia, New Guinea, Brazil, and the Ukraine.

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POINSETTIAS AND GREENS SPONSORS

Bruce Beal

Thomas Braham & Greg Zinkl

Karol Weigelt & David Stahl – In memory of Brenda & John Weigelt; and Martha & Harold Stahl

John & Torry Marszalek – In honor of Baby Marszalek (due Feb 2010)

Patrice & Mike Macken – In memory of Milda & Harry Steele; and Kay Macken;
In thanksgiving for Matthew McFarland

Chris & Colleen Hanna – In memory of Harold & Myrtle Kattener

Ken Duckmann – In memory of Ken & Lilian Duckmann; Charly Jakobsen; Eva & Per Eide; and Bissle Jakobsen

Pam & Barry Vig – In honor of Megan & Mandolyn

Ann & Carl Kreiter – In honor of Graham & Barbara Warner; and Richard & Judy Kreiter

Leon Stevens – In honor of Norm Kaiser and his many years of service to Holy Trinity

Kerry Fleming – In memory of his parents, Mr. & Mrs. C.T. Fleming

Steve & Beth Mankowski – In thanksgiving for Paige & Adam Mankowski

Mike Thompson & Pete Hillman – In thanksgiving for Christ in our hearts!

Richard Boyum – In memory of Arthur Boyum

Chris & Wendy Stelter – In thanksgiving for family & friends

Richard Bough & David Easterbrook – In memory of Hazel & Edward Bough; and Lloyd Easterbrook

Dan, Susan, and Jane Twetten – In honor of grandparents Jim, Ginny, Bill, Jane, & Frances

Lynn Horn – In honor of his mother, Lucille Horn

Ryan & Carol LaHurd – In memory of their parents Clair, Marion, Daniel, & Madeline

Paul Moraghan

Craig Mueller – In memory of Berna

Keith Kanthak & Judy Mayers

Matthew Petersen – In honor of his recent marriage



A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

Craig M. Mueller, Pastor
Michelle L. Miller, Associate Pastor
David R. Brackley, Minister of Music
Joshua R. Judd-Herzfeldt, Administrator

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Web Page: www.holytrinitychicago.org

Office Hours: Mon., Tues., Thurs., 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.;
Wed., 1 – 8 p.m.; Sun., 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Welcome to Holy Trinity! Wherever you are in your spiritual life and/or in your process of being comfortable in church or finding a church home, you are welcome here!

PARKING is available at McDonald's, Clark and Addison, on Sunday mornings when you are unable to find street parking. Please use the spaces in the southwest corner (near Addison and the alley). Pick up a permit at the back of Holy Trinity that you can keep in your car. Please do not use the lot on days of Cubs home games or you will be towed. (383 neighborhood parking permits are only needed from 6 pm – 6 am.)

Podcast of last week's sermon is available on our website.

Interested in membership? We would be delighted to have you join our community of faith in worship and ministry. New member orientation sessions are held throughout the year. Watch the bulletin or see our website for more information.

Silence. In addition to words and music our liturgy has several periods of silence. The resonance of the meditation bell calls us to a time of reflection and centering.

Holy Communion: All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion. Adults or children not communing may come forward for a blessing.

The Spiritual Life Center has offices at Holy Trinity, offering counseling and spiritual direction. Brochures are available at the back of the church.