

Liturgy at
Holy Trinity
Lutheran Church

December 23, 2018 + 9am and 11am

Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year C



Cradle and cross are inextricably connected on the fourth Sunday of Advent. Between a lovely tribute to the little town of Bethlehem and the blessed virgin Mary's magnificent song of praise, the letter to the Hebrews reminds us in no uncertain terms that Christ's advent is for "the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." It is the kind of tension in which the church always lives as when in the holy communion—with high delight—"we proclaim the Lord's death."

Prelude

Sonata in C Major
Larghetto
Allegro
Adagio
Allegro

George F. Händel
(1685-1759)

Help Us Create **SACRED SPACE** by powering down

Please do not use cell phones and other electronic devices.

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

As you pass the *baptismal font* upon entering or leaving the church, and/or on the way to communion, you may *dip your hand in the water* and *make the sign of the cross*. This is an ancient body prayer to remember you are a baptized child of God. Simply touch your forehead to chest, then your left to right shoulder.

GATHERING

Confession and Forgiveness

All may *make the sign of the cross*, the sign that is marked at baptism, where indicated by the +.

Blessed be the Holy Trinity + one God, our light and our salvation.
Amen.

Let us prepare for Christ's coming by turning from our sin and seeking God's tender mercy and compassion.

Kneel. A period of silence is kept.

Almighty God,
We confess that we have sinned against you,
and against our sisters, brothers, and siblings.
Our words and deeds have not proclaimed
your reign of justice and truth.
We have failed to watch and pray
for the signs of your advent among us.
Forgive our sin, and come quickly to save us. Amen.

In the advent of Christ the dawn from high
breaks upon us with light and healing.
Through Jesus Christ, God looks with favor on you, +
and forgives you all your sin.
Amen.

Turn to face the Advent Wreath.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray... Amen.

~ be seated ~

WORD

First Reading

| Micah 5:2-5a

The passage from Micah is set next to the Advent story of the visitation because of its references to a pregnant woman, to Bethlehem, and to the coming one who will rule "to the ends of the earth." Christians see this hope of Micah fulfilled in Jesus Christ.

9am

Canticle: Magnificat

Paraphrase:
Timothy Dudley
Smith

The assembly sings the
canticle together.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.



1. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord! Un -
2. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his Name! Make
3. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might! Pow'rs
4. Tell out, my soul, the glo - ries of his word! Firm



num - bered bless - ings, give my spir - it
known his might, the deeds his arm has
and do - min - ions lay their glo - ry
is his prom - ise, and his mer - cy



voice; ten - der to me the prom - ise of his word; in
done; his mer - cy sure, from age to age the same; his
by. Proud hearts and stub - born wills are put to flight, the
sure. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord to



God my Sav - iour shall my heart re - joice.
ho - ly Name, the Lord, the Might - y One.
hun - gry fed, the hum - ble lift - ed high.
child - ren's chil - dren and for ev - er - more!

Text: Timothy Dudley Smith, © 1962, Renewal 1990 Hope Publishing Company.
Music: Walter Grotz, 1877-1949, © Oxford University Press

Refrain:



My soul re-joic-es in the Lord; I glo-ri-fy the ho-ly name of God.

Sanctum nomen Domini

Communion Chant for Advent, Christmas, and Marian feasts

Charles Thatcher

Tr. and music © 2007, WLP

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior. For you, Lord, have looked with favor on your lowly servant; from this day all generations will call me blessed:

Refrain

You, the almighty, have done great things for me, and holy is your name. You have mercy on those who fear you, from generation to generation.

Refrain

You have shown strength with your arm and scattered the proud in their conceit, casting down the mighty from their thrones, and lifting up the lowly. You have filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty.

Refrain

You have come to the help of your servant Israel, to remember the promise of mercy, the promise made to our forebears, to Abraham and his children forever.

Refrain

The Hebrews passage is set next to the Advent story of the visitation because of its emphasis on doing God's will. Throughout his infancy narratives, Luke stresses that Mary willingly accepted and embodied the will of God. In the Bible, to accept God's will is to live in grace; it is God's will for us to be saved. Only recently have some Christians equated God's will with a detailed personal plan for one's life. The author of Hebrews writes theology, not biography, when putting these words into Christ's mouth. This is one example of how formative for early Christian beliefs were the psalms.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

11am

Canticle: Magnificat

Setting: Charles
Thatcher

The choir sings the refrain and the assembly repeats. The choir sings the verses.

Second Reading

| Hebrews 10:5-10

Gospel Acclamation

Setting: John
Ferguson

The choir/cantor sings the Alleluia and the assembly repeats. The choir/cantor sings the verse.

Stand to welcome the gospel as Christ—the Word of God—as it is proclaimed among us in this place and time. Turn to face the book as the gospel is read in the midst of the assembly, a sign of Christ among us.



Verse: Here I am, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word. (Luke 1:38)

Alleluia...

Gospel

Luke 1:39-45

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.

Mary, Elizabeth, and all the baptized have been filled with the Holy Spirit. God's promise comes especially to the downtrodden, the hungry, the lowly. We are thus called to stand with these people, as Elizabeth did, and be surprised to discover in them the presence of God.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Alleluia... (sung as above)

~be seated~

Sermon

Silence

Following the sermon there is a time of silence for reflection and quiet meditation. Our liturgy is not only made up of words, gestures and music, but also moments of silence.

~stand~

#258 Unexpected and Mysterious

Hymn of the Day

Prayers of Intercession

After each petition:

Let us pray:

Come, Lord Jesus.

Peace

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

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

~ be seated ~

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MEAL

A special welcome to newcomers! We invite you to fill out the yellow slip in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate when you come up for communion or as you depart.

We thank you for your generous support of Holy Trinity. We seek to **do church differently** as we address racial justice, climate change, and take stands for the rights and dignity of all people created in the image of God. Most of our congregation gives online and you can set up one-time or recurring donations at giving.htchicago.org.

*Checks and envelope offerings support Holy Trinity's overall ministry unless designated otherwise. Offerings may be put in the plate **on the way to communion**.*

~stand~

#248 People, Look East

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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,
almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.
You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,
through whom you will also make all things new
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.
And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the
hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Setting the Table

Offertory Hymn

Great Thanksgiving

The thanksgiving includes the following:
| Dialogue

| Preface

Holy, Holy

This ancient song is the musical climax of the liturgy and uses texts from Isaiah and Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. At the words "blessed is he who comes," some make the **sign of the cross** as a connection to our baptism into Jesus' death and resurrection.

Choir, then all
Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and God of might,
Choir
Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry,
All
Ho-san - na in the high - est, ho-san-na in the high - est,
Choir
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,
All
Ho-san - na in the high - est, ho-san-na in the high - est.

Music: *Missa Emmanuel*, Richard Proulx (b. 1937) © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc.

Thanksgiving at the Table

Hoping beyond hope, we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The responses during the Thanksgiving at the Table echo the presiding minister.

... All praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, here and now and until the end of time.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

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 - dav 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.

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.
 Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

Tune: Jacques Berthier, © with text, 1984, Les Presses de Talzé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. Text: John G; adapt. by Robert J. Batastini

~ be seated ~

All are welcome at Christ's table, including children. Bread is received in the hands. Wine is received either by drinking from the (silver) common cup, or by saving the bread and dipping it in the second (glass) cup. Gluten-free wafers are available from the presiding minister. Those not communing may come forward for a blessing, keeping your hands folded over your chest. For those unable to consume either wine or bread, communion is received fully in either element alone.

Holy Trinity's radical welcome is also an **invitation to baptism** and a deeper connection to community. If you are not baptized, please speak to one of the pastors to learn more about the process of adult baptism.

Text may be found in Hymn 254.

Breaking of the
 Bread
 Please remain standing.

Communion

(9am)
Communion Anthem

Come, Thou Long-
 Expected Jesus
 Jean Philippe
 Rameau
 (1683-1764)

(11am)

Communion Anthem

| *Lo, How A Rose E'er*
| *Blooming*
Alf S. Houkom
(b. 1935)

Silence

Prayer

Blessing

Text may be found in Hymn 272.

~ stand~

Let us pray. *brief silence*
...Amen.

SENDING

Having heard the word and shared the eucharist, we are sent to live our baptism through words and deeds, making known the love of Christ, and working for justice and peace in our families, communities, and world.

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

Sending Hymn

#631 *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

Sending

Go in peace. Christ is coming soon.
Thanks be to God!

Postlude

9am
| *Fugue in G minor,*
| *BWV 578*
J.S. Bach
(1685-1750)

*Following the liturgy, several things happen simultaneously: some folks **greet one another** and converse; others listen to the **organ postlude**; and others move to the front of the sanctuary for **refreshments and social time**.*

11am

| *Veni, Emmanuel*
Robert J. Powell
(b. 1932)

ASSISTING IN TODAY'S LITURGIES

| | |
|---|--|
| PRESIDING MINISTER----- | Pr. Craig Mueller |
| PREACHING MINISTER----- | Pr. Michelle Sevig |
| MINISTER OF MUSIC----- | David Brackley |
| ORGANIST (9am)----- | John Weit |
| VIOLA (9am and 11am); CANTOR (9am)----- | Ayriole Frost |
| ASSISTING MINISTER----- | (9am) Vicar Noah Herren; (11am) Beau Surratt |
| INCENSE----- | (9am) Megan White; (11am) Patty Erickson |
| CRUCIFER----- | (9am) Justin Stewart; (11am) Peder Sevig |
| SACRISTAN----- | (9am) Megan White; (11am) Jonas Ellison |
| COMMUNION ASSISTANT----- | (9am) Kristin Ruckdeschel, Carol LaHurd ----- (11am) Michael Schnell, Julie Sevig |
| MEDITATION BELL----- | (9am) Sheldon Krieger; (11am) Julie Sevig |
| READERS----- | (9am) Ben Stewart, Kent Swanson; (11am) Erika Robeck, Alex Ellison |
| INTERCESSIONS----- | (9am) Ben Stewart; (11am) Vicar Noah Herren |
| ACOLYTE TORCHBEARERS----- | (9am) Anna Vicknair, Ella Vicknair; (11am) Annika Sevig, Oliver Sevig |
| ALTAR PREPARATION----- | (9am) Staff; (11am) Julie Sevig |
| WELCOME HOSPITALITY----- | (9am) Adam Damerow, Ken Duckmann, Jim Hiepler-Hartwig ----- (11am) Kelly and Michael Johnson, Martin Collard |
| BREAD----- | Lora Swanson |
| COFFEE HOSPITALITY----- | Audrey Frost |

DECEMBER: A MONTH FOR GENEROSITY

Consider a special year-end gift to Holy Trinity.

It has been a wonderful year and we are **grateful for vibrant ministries** of worship, music, service, children's programs, spiritual formation, and outreach.

Holy Trinity depends on strong December offerings.
Your gift will help assure a strong start to 2019.

Most people **give online (giving.htchicago.org)** but we still have an offering basket available! **Either way, THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**

CHRISTMAS AT HTLAKEVIEW

4:30pm Family Christmas Eve Liturgy + TOMORROW

Service of the Word (no communion) especially for families with children. Includes the Christmas story with beloved carols. Children will help lead the service.

10pm Christ Mass (music begins at 9:45pm)

The Christ Mass-the principal Christmas service-is both solemn and joyful. Pre-service music begins at 9:45. Music by the Holy Trinity choir.

10am Christmas Day Liturgy + TUESDAY

Festive Christmas morning liturgy in a quiet, intimate setting. Hymns and readings celebrate God with us in the Word made flesh.



1.6.19 + 9am + HTLakeview

We invite everyone to attend at 9:00am for the annual Epiphany Festival with beloved carols, two choirs, and the procession of the Magi. An HTF favorite liturgy you will not want to miss! Followed by light brunch (Three Kings Cake) in Passavant Hall. After many in our community are away for the holidays this is our chance to all be together to celebrate Christmas.

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Additional Advent/Christmas Events and Information Not Included Above

Christmas Eve + Monday, December 24 + HTLoop

+ 4:30pm – Family Christmas Eve Liturgy (*HTLoop*)

+ 8pm – Grace Episcopal's Christmas Eve Liturgy (*HTLoop*)

First Sunday of Christmas + Saturday/Sunday, December 29/30

+ Normal Weekend Schedule – 5pm Saturday at HTLoop; 9am and 11am on Sunday at HTLakeview

+ *No Sunday School*

Epiphany + Saturday, January 5 + HTLoop

+ 5pm – Epiphany Festival Eucharist at HTLoop

Volunteer in the New Year

+ Help cook and serve a meal for **The Crib Shelter on January 12**. Contact Ken Duckmann (justducky514@yahoo.com, 773-551-2573) with questions.

Upcoming Commemorations

December 26 + Stephen, Deacon and Martyr

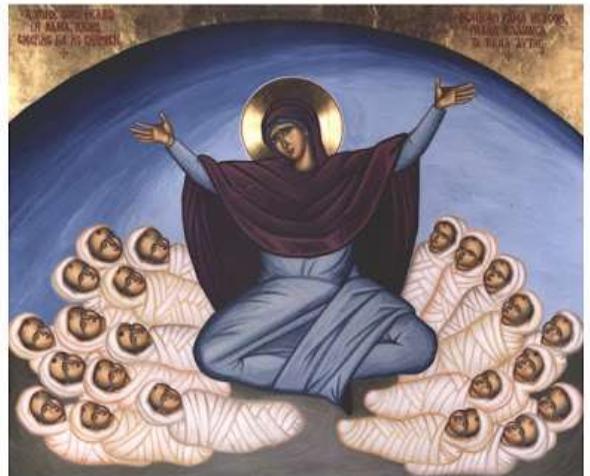
Stephen was a deacon and the first martyr of the church. He was one of those seven upon whom the apostles laid hands after they had been chosen to serve widows and others in need. Later, Stephen's preaching angered the temple authorities, and they ordered him to be put to death by stoning.

December 27 + 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.

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.



WHAT WE VALUE

Our worship is ancient and new

We celebrate a liturgy based on ancient patterns and rituals that go back to the early centuries of Christianity. We gather for worship to hear the scriptures and wrestle with their meaning for our lives today. We share the sacred meal of bread and wine and depart to serve a world in need. Though ancient, worship is always fresh and new as the gospel of Christ comes alive for our contemporary context. Time unplugged from electronic devices allows reflection and centering. Open to the Mystery we connect, strengthen and serve with joy.

Things we're for

Radical inclusivity regardless of race, ethnicity, gender identity, documentation or socio-economic status, sexual orientation or religious/spiritual background. Welcoming refugees and immigrants as the biblical injunction to provide hospitality to strangers. Democracy as the means to support those who are marginalized or most vulnerable in society. Embodied gathering in real time and sacred space. Multisensory liturgy that helps us delight in God's beauty. Intentional engagement with contemporary social, theological and spiritual issues. God's creation, including human beings, that are wonderfully diverse. User-friendly liturgies. Preaching that is honest about the struggles of life and the grace of God. Robust congregational singing. Reverence and joy in worship that spills over into everyday life. Cultivating empowering relationships, not only at church but everywhere. Openness to questions and faith struggles. Treasuring mystery above certainty.

Things we're against

Power and privilege that lead to prejudice and oppression. Systems that perpetuate white preference and advantage. Binary ways of looking at gender, sexuality, and other ways of being in the world. Political ideologies that pit love of country against service to the earth and all its people. Patriarchy and sexism that discriminate against women and gender non-conforming people. Senseless violence. Negative and hateful partisanship. Superficial responses to life's painful and difficult realities. Boring sermons. Church services that don't connect with everyday life. Equating Christianity with a particular political party. Indifference to injustice and suffering. Misuse of the earth and its resources.



NEWCOMER OR FIRST TIME? WELCOME!

- + **Whoever you are**, wherever you're from, whatever the color of your skin, whomever you love or marry, or whatever your feelings about religion or spirituality, you are welcome here.
- + **If the rituals and practices** of our liturgy are new to you, please participate as you feel comfortable and are able.
- + Please fill out a **yellow slip in the pew rack** and place it in the offering basket.
- + **More information** on Holy Trinity, Lutheranism, worship practices, marriage and baptisms at the welcome table.
 - Upcoming baptism dates: January 13, 2019
- + **To families with small children**: We are glad you are here! If your child needs a break from the service, feel free to walk to the narthex/back of the church. **Nursery**: open 8:45am – 12:15pm Use the garden entrance on Addison; nursery is inside the door. **Special children's materials** are on a rack at the back of the church.
- + **Sunday School for children ages 4-12**: Children age 4- 12 are invited to join us for Sunday school each week (*no Sunday School December 23 and 30; January 6*). We begin promptly at 10am. Children age 4 through grade 2 meet upstairs in Passavant Hall. Children grades 3-6 meet in the Spiritual Life Center. Contact Pastor Sevig (msevig@htchicago.org) if you have any questions.
- + **Offerings**: We rely on the generosity of members and friends to support the programs, staff, building, and ministries of Holy Trinity and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. A large number of the congregation gives their offerings online. You can also **donate online** at giving.htchicago.org. We still have an offering basket available during worship as well! We appreciate your contributions of time, talent, and financial support!
- + **Photos and Social Media**: As worship services and most Holy Trinity gatherings are public events, please know that your presence here means that you may be included in photos or videos that may be posted on HTLC social media. If you do not wish to be in photographs or videos, or if you do not want photos of your children used, please complete the form at media.htchicago.org. HTLC social media administrators will make every effort to not include them in HTLC social media.

DO YOU CONSIDER HOLY TRINITY YOUR CHURCH HOME?

Register by filling out the yellow slip in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate or register online at holytrinitychicago.org/register.

You will receive our e-newsletter.



Holy Trinity: Lakeview

1218 W. Addison Street, 60613
office@htchicago.org

Holy Trinity: Loop

637 S. Dearborn Street, 60605
info@htloop.org

☎ 773.248.1233

📧 holytrinitychicago.org

Purpose Statement

Open to the Mystery...
Connect, Strengthen, and Serve with Joy!

Guiding Principles

Act with courage
Be radically inclusive
Cultivate empowering relationships
Delight in God's beauty
Engage With Intention



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

STAFF

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Nursery Attendant (HTLakeview)

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