

# Trinity Lutheran Church

December 22, 2019

10:30 a.m.

## Fourth Sunday in Advent Zechariah's Song

**Trinity Lutheran Church is a Reconciling in Christ congregation.**  
Trinity Lutheran – ELCA is a welcoming and inclusive church. We welcome believers, seekers, and the curious, regardless of religious background. We are Reconciling in Christ and extend welcome and invitation to all regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity; race, ethnicity, or immigration status; economic status; physical, mental, or developmental issues; or other life circumstance. God loves and welcomes all people. We welcome all people to the life of Christ at Trinity.

### Trinity - 3 congregations, 1 faith community

You may notice there are other church folk around this place of worship who are not Lutheran! Trinity Lutheran shares office and worship space with St. Paul's Episcopal and Mary of Magdala Ecumenical Catholic Community, as partners in ministry. Together we are better, as we share the ministry that God has given to us in the place and time. We are grateful for our partnership together, accompanied by the joys and challenges of living under the same roof. Thanks to God for this opportunity.

We believe we are not a complete community, and that God is calling new people to join us and to find their place at Trinity.

### So, how can you learn more?

Visit our website at [www.trinitylutheranfc.org](http://www.trinitylutheranfc.org) or contact our pastor for a chat.

**We invite you join us on the journey of faith!  
Saturdays at 5p.m. & Sundays at 10:30a.m.**



Trinity is a welcoming faith community living together in God's love to share the joy of Jesus Christ.

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TLC Preschool - 221-9852



# WELCOME TO TRINITY!

**Trinity is a welcoming faith community living together in God's love to share the joy of Jesus Christ.**

**Guests and Visitors:** A special **welcome** to you from Trinity's pastor and congregation members. We pray that this worship will bring you comfort, joy, and renewal. All are invited to receive the bread and wine of Holy Communion. If you have any questions about the worship service or about Trinity, our Hospitality Team members (at the Welcome Desk or identified by name tag) are happy to help.

Your offering is your presence with us in community. We encourage you to fill out a welcome card and place it in the offering plate. Please join us again!

**Parents and Caregivers:** Please know that God's children of all ages are welcome in worship. Younger kids are invited to bring one of our specially-prepared "busy bags" into the worship service along with crayons. Both are available in the narthex as you enter the sanctuary. If you wish to step out with your child at any time, there is a special room just outside the worship space where you will be able to view and hear the service. If you prefer, we also offer a staffed Nursery, located to the east of the fellowship hall. Children cared for in the Nursery are brought into worship for the Youth Message.

**Special needs:** Hearing-assistance devices, as well as gluten-free wafers and grape juice for Communion, are available during our services. Holy Communion can also be brought to the seats of those with mobility trouble. Our Hospitality Team members can help with any of these special needs.



## IN MINISTRY TODAY

<b>Hospitality Team</b>	Dave Karst, Ron & Carolyn Kufeld & Cayden Hopkins
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Delores Wisner
<b>Lector</b>	Delores Wisner

## CONGREGATIONAL MINISTERS: THE MEMBERS OF TRINITY

Rick Reiten, **Senior Pastor**  
Katie Kline, **Education & Family Minister**  
Paul Falk, **Director of Choirs**  
Alice Crawford, **Church Musician**  
Brenda Harju, **TLC Preschool Director**  
Debbie Schwartz, **Financial Manager**  
Deana Andrist, **Office Administrator**  
Amanda Backsen, **Director of Communications**  
Liz Johnson, **Volunteer Coordinator**  
Joshua Moore, **AV Technician**  
Tiffany Klijewski, **Nursery Coordinator**

**\*Please stand as you are able\***

## Fourth Sunday in Advent

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (10:25 am)

A special thank you to **Deborah Liv Johnson**, Esther Johnson's daughter, for sharing her gift of music with us today!

Thank you **all** for being with us on this beautiful Sunday morning. Please join us in the fellowship hall immediately following the service for coffee, conversation and fellowship.

*Trinity Christmas Eve Candlelight Services*  
*with Holy Communion:*  
*December 24, 2019 2:30 pm & 4:30 pm*

### PRELUDE

*"Carol of the Bells"*  
Bells of Trinity

Setting by Dick Averee

### \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS\*

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

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the parent who rouses us from slumber, the shepherd who gathers us on the holy mountain, the deliverer who sets us free.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us come before the living God in confession.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: As we wait and watch for the promised day of salvation,

C: **we open our hearts to you, O God. Search us and know us. Reveal all that we keep inside. To you, O God, we confess our sins, known and unknown. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us in your ways of justice and peace. Make us reflections of the radiant love of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

P: Beloved children of the Most High, you are gathered before the righteous judge who has mercy on all. Splash exuberantly in the waters of baptism, where sin is washed away in the river of life. Dwell peacefully in the loving arms of the one who nurtures all creation. Go forth boldly in the assurance that your sins are forgiven in the name of the one who is coming and is already here, † Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: **Amen.**

### \*GATHERING SONG\*

*"On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"*  
Verses 1, 3, 4 & 5

**ELW #249**

### \*INVOCATION\*

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

C: **And also with you.**

**\*KYRIE\***

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

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.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION\***

**C:** God of abundance, we give you thanks that in this holy meal you have invited us to feast with you and one another. May the taste of your love remain with us, and may our words and our work in your name invite others into your bountiful grace. Send us from your table to proclaim your presence, even as we await the glorious coming of Christ our Savior.  
**Amen.**

**\*BLESSING\***

**P:** May God, who gathers us in love, lead you in pathways of righteousness and justice. May God, who knows us more deeply than we know ourselves, lead you in pathways of forgiveness and freedom. May God, who fills us with good things, lead you in pathways of equity and abundance. The blessing of the holy Trinity, † one God, be upon you and remain with you forever.

**C:** **Amen.**

**\*SENDING SONG\***

*"The King Shall Come"*

**ELW #260**

**\*SENDING\***

**P:** Go in peace. Christ is with you.

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

**POSTLUDE**

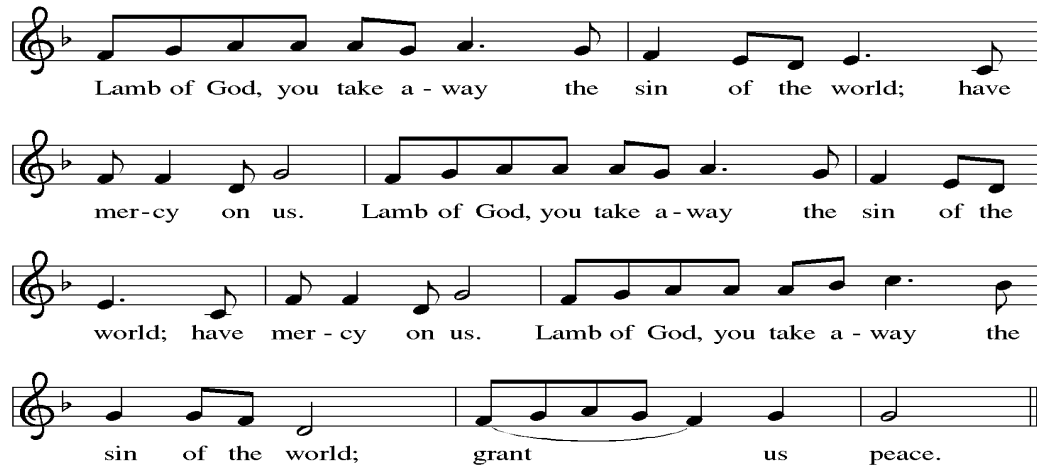
*"Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella"*

Setting by  
Keith Chapman

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*We come to the table by Jesus' invitation. All are welcome! As you come forward, receive the bread and the red wine or white juice. Let us know if you need a gluten free wafer. If you are not ready to receive communion, but would like a blessing, please come forward with your hands folded.*

## 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.

## COMMUNION SONG

*"Of the Father's Love Begotten"*

ELW #295

### \*COMMUNION BLESSING\*

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

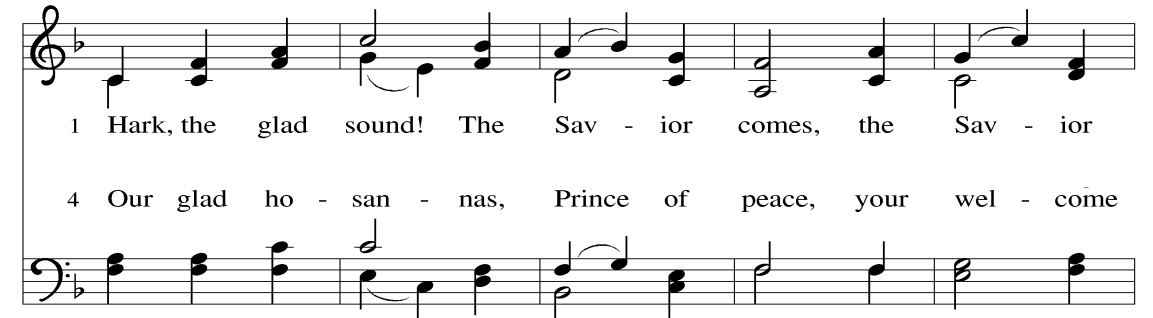
C: Amen.

## \*SONG OF PRAISE\*

*"Hark, the Glad Sound!"*

ELW #239

Verses 1 & 4



1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior  
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come



prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -  
shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal



pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.  
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY\*

C: God of the prophets, you sent John into the world to proclaim the coming of your son. Give us ears to hear the proclamations of your promises and eyes to see your presence in this world.  
Amen.

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

*Children are invited to come forward.*  
"Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah"  
Verse 4

ELW #240

**ALL SING:** Light four candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness. He is coming, tell the glad tidings. Let your lights be shining!

### CANDLE LIGHTING

**L:** Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. In your Son, Emmanuel, you have shown us your light and saved us from the power of sin. Bless us as we light the candles on this wreath. Increase our longing for your presence, that at the celebration of your Son's birth his Spirit might dwell anew in our midst, for he is our light and our salvation. Blessed be God forever.

**C:** Amen.

**ALL SING:** Light four candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness. He is coming, tell the glad tidings. Let your lights be shining!

### MUSICAL OFFERING

*"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"*  
Trinity Chancel Choir

Setting by  
Oscar R Overby

### GOD'S STORY

LUKE 1:5-13, 57-80

<sup>5</sup>In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was a descendant of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. <sup>6</sup>Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. <sup>7</sup>But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years. <sup>8</sup>Once when he was serving as priest before God and his section was on duty, <sup>9</sup>he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and offer incense. <sup>10</sup>Now at the time of the incense offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. <sup>11</sup>Then there

### \*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY\*

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.

### \*WORDS OF INSTITUTION\*

*All are invited to share in these sacred words of promise,  
as Jesus gives this gift to the people.*

- P:** In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying...
- C:** **Take and eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in Remembrance of me.**
- P:** Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying...
- C:** **This cup is the new promise in my blood, shed for you, and for all people, for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in Remembrance of me.**

### \*LORD'S PRAYER\*

**Our Father in heaven, holy be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

if I were a wise . . . man I would do my part;

yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

**\*OFFERING PRAYER\***

**C:** Giver of every good thing, we set before you the gifts that you have already given to sustain our lives and to share with others. Help us to be good stewards of the earth and all that is in it, and let our lives be a testimony to the abundant feast you prepare for all who hunger.  
Amen.

**\*GREAT THANKSGIVING\***

The Lord be with you. And also 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.

appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. <sup>12</sup>When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him. <sup>13</sup>But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John.

<sup>57</sup>Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. <sup>58</sup>Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her. <sup>59</sup>On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his father. <sup>60</sup>But his mother said, "No; he is to be called John." <sup>61</sup>They said to her, "None of your relatives has this name." <sup>62</sup>Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. <sup>63</sup>He asked for a writing tablet and wrote, "His name is John." And all of them were amazed. <sup>64</sup>Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak, praising God. <sup>65</sup>Fear came over all their neighbors, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea. <sup>66</sup>All who heard them pondered them and said, "What then will this child become?" For, indeed, the hand of the Lord was with him. <sup>67</sup>Then his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke this prophecy: <sup>68</sup>"Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them. <sup>69</sup>He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David, <sup>70</sup>as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, <sup>71</sup>that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us. <sup>72</sup>Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors, and has remembered his holy covenant, <sup>73</sup>the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us <sup>74</sup>that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear, <sup>75</sup>in holiness and righteousness before him all our days. <sup>76</sup>And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, <sup>77</sup>to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins. <sup>78</sup>By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, <sup>79</sup>to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace." <sup>80</sup>The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day he appeared publicly to Israel.

**A:** The word of the Lord.  
**C:** Thanks be to God.

**SONG OF RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD**

"Prepare the Royal Highway"

**ELW #264**



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:



*Refrain*  
Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

**MESSAGE**

**Pastor Rick**

**\*SONG OF THE DAY\***

"My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness"

**ELW #251**

**\*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 THE PEOPLE\***

A: Let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

**\*SHARING OF THE PEACE\***

P: The peace of Christ be with you all.

C: And also with you.

**OFFERING**

"Do You Hear the Mother"

Deborah Liv Johnson

Deborah Liv Johnson

*Children are invited to bring their offering forward for the mission jug,  
supporting ELCA World Hunger.*

**\*OFFERING SONG\***

"In the Bleak Midwinter"

**ELW #294**



3 What . . . can I give him, poor . . . as I am?



If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb;



*Continued on next page*