

The Evangelical Lutheran Church
of the Holy Trinity
Cocoa and Granada Avenues
Hershey, Pennsylvania 17033
(717) 533-2467

Sunday, December 15, 2024
Third Sunday of Advent

Christ’s presence in our midst in the wonder of the holy supper is cause for singing. The nearness of the God in prayer, in every circumstance, is cause for rejoicing. The coming of one “more powerful” than John, even with a winnowing fork in hand, is good news—and cause for exultation—for us who are being saved. Great joy is the tone for the third Sunday of Advent.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Let us prepare for Worship.

GATHERING PRELUDE:

Suo Gân (Now the Heavens Start to Whisper) Richard A. Lind
Comfort, Comfort Ye My People..... Paul Bunjes

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT LITANY

P: In Advent we are reminded of a yearning for the one who is coming.
O Emmanuel,

All: Surprise us by your coming.

P: We gather together to let God’s good news reorient our lives.
O Emmanuel,

All: Surprise us by your coming.

P: We wait for the day when all the world will see the sign that God is with us.
O Emmanuel,

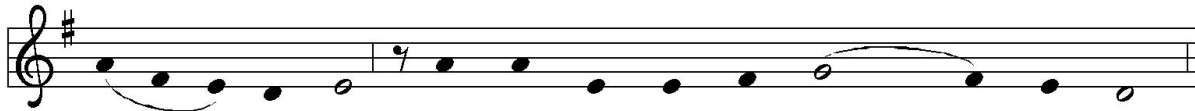
All: Surprise us by your coming.

P: Jesus, we welcome your presence now with the lighting of this candle, whose flame fills this place with the glow of hope, peace, joy and love.

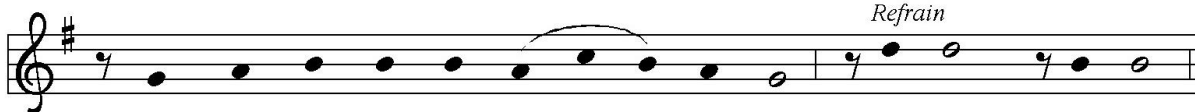
All: Amen.



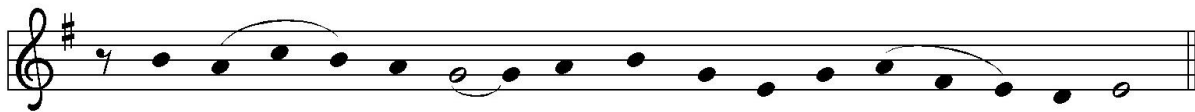
1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

- 5 O come, O Key of David, come,
 and open wide our heav'nly home;
 make safe the way that leads on high,
 and close the path to misery. *Refrain*
- 6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;
 O Sun of justice, now draw near.
 Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
 and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Refrain*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

One of the best-known customs for the season is the Advent wreath. The wreath and winter candle-lighting amid growing darkness strengthen some of the Advent images found in the Bible. The unbroken circle of greens is an image of everlasting life, a victory wreath, the crown of Christ, or the wheel of time itself. Christians use the wreath as a sign that Christ reaches into our time to lead us to the light of everlasting life. The four candles mark the progress of the four weeks of Advent and the growth of light.

The first, second and third candles are lit on the Advent Wreath

P: Let us pray... Praise to you, O God, who holds our joy and sorrow. You bring water to parched ground and life out of death. Bless us as this light grows and send sorrow and sighing to flee away. Give us strength and patience, trusting that you are true to your promises. Transform the lives of all who suffer with your wonders near at hand.

All: Amen.

KYRIE: *Come Now, O Prince of Peace* **ELW 247**



O - so - sŏ o - so - sŏ, pyong - hwa - ũi - im - gŭm
1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one bod - y.
2 Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.
3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior.



u - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - sŏ.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray... Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Zephaniah 3:14-20

The prophet Zephaniah's message is mostly one of judgment for sin. This reading, however, which comes from the conclusion of the book, prophesies joy for Judah and Jerusalem. Judgment has led to repentance, and God's salvation is at hand.

- ¹⁴ Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!
- ¹⁵ The LORD has taken away the judgments against you,
he has turned away your enemies.
The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.
- ¹⁶ On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands grow weak.
¹⁷The LORD, your God, is in your midst,
a warrior who gives victory;
he will rejoice over you with gladness,
he will renew you in his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing
¹⁸as on a day of festival.
I will remove disaster from you,
so that you will not bear reproach for it.
¹⁹I will deal with all your oppressors
at that time.
And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,
and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.
²⁰At that time I will bring you home,
at the time when I gather you;
for I will make you renowned and praised
among all the peoples of the earth,
when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes, says the LORD.

Psalm: Isaiah 12:2-6 (*Congregation sings the refrain and bold verses*)

Refrain:

In your midst is the Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el.

Verse:

²Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not | be afraid,
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might, and has become | my salvation.
³**With joy you | will draw water
from the wells | of salvation. R**
⁴And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call | on God's name;
make known the deeds of the LORD among the nations; proclaim that this name | is exalted.
⁵**Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done | gloriously;
let this be known in | all the earth.**
⁶Shout aloud and sing for joy, O | royal Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy | One of Israel. **R**

SECOND READING: Philippians 4:4-7

Despite being in prison, Paul is remarkably upbeat as he writes this letter. Here, he urges his friends in Philippi to trust God with all their worries and concerns with the hope that they will experience God's joy and peace.

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

P: Word of God, word of life.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia

Refrain:



Verse:



I am sending my messen- / ger before you, who will prepare your / way before you.*

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 3rd chapter.

All: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Luke 3:7-18

John the Baptist heralds the mighty one who is coming. John teaches that preparation for God's reign is not a matter of identity but of bearing fruits of merciful justice, radical generosity, and vocational integrity.

⁷ John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?" ⁸ Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹ Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

¹⁰ And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" ¹¹ In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." ¹² Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" ¹³ He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." ¹⁴ Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you

with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

¹⁸ So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

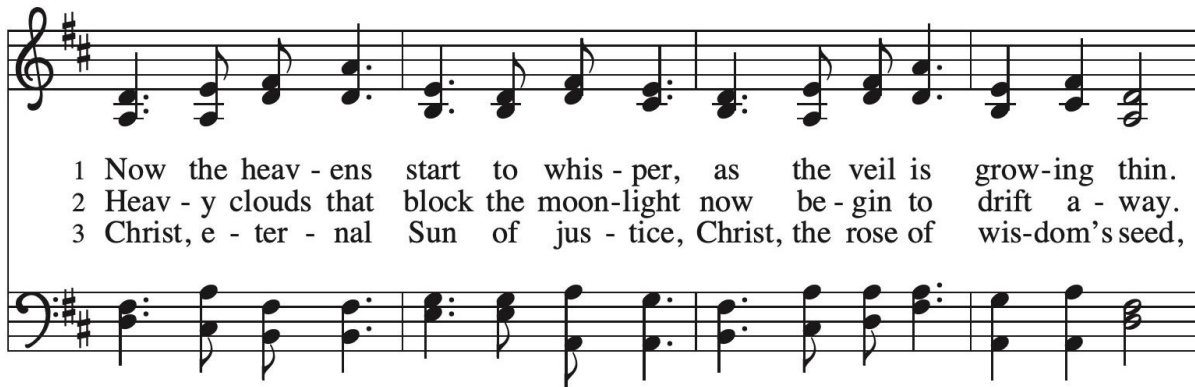
P: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

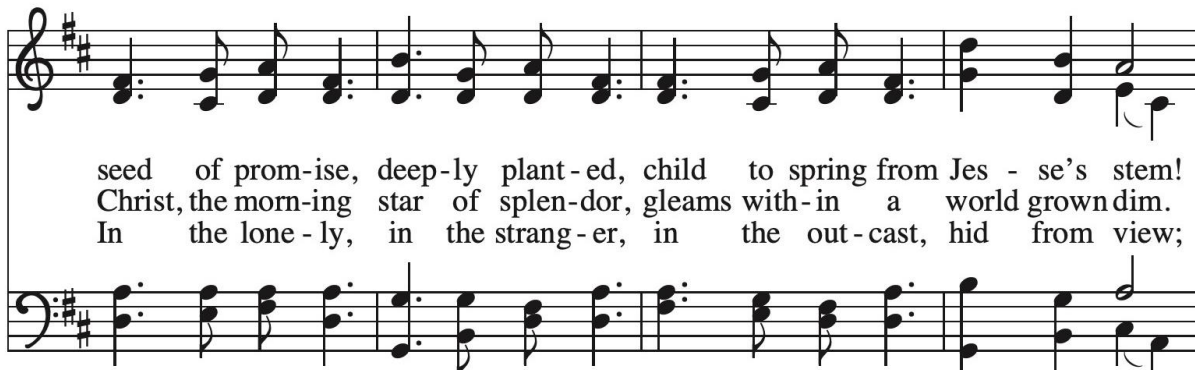
HYMN OF THE DAY: *Now the Heavens Start to Whisper*.....ACS 901



1 Now the heav - ens start to whis - per, as the veil is grow - ing thin.
2 Heav - y clouds that block the moon - light now be - gin to drift a - way.
3 Christ, e - ter - nal Sun of jus - tice, Christ, the rose of wis - dom's seed,



Earth from slum - ber wakes to lis - ten to the stir - ring, faint with - in:
Dia - mond bril - liance through the dark - ness shines the hope of com - ing day.
come to bless with fire and fra - grance hours of yearn - ing, hurt, and need.



seed of prom - ise, deep - ly plant - ed, child to spring from Jes - se's stem!
Christ, the morn - ing star of splen - dor, gleams with - in a world grown dim.
In the lone - ly, in the strang - er, in the out - cast, hid from view;

Like the soil be - neath the frost-line, hearts grow soft to wel-come him.
 Heav-en's em - ber fans to full-ness; hearts grow warm to wel-come him.
 Child who comes to grace the man-ger, teach our hearts to wel-come you.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953
 Music: SŪO GĀN, Welsh melody; arr. hymnal version
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 Arr. © 2020 Augsburg Fortress

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

Sing Wait for the Lord before and after the prayers.

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

Respond after each petition.

P: Lord, in your mercy,
All: **receive our prayer.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.
All: **And also with you.**

TABLE SETTING SONG: *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence (Verses 1 & 2)* **ELW 490**
(Join in singing from the red ELW hymnal in the pew.)

Thank you for your generous support of our ministry at Holy Trinity. Offering can be placed in the Offering Plate at the entrance to worship or in the Offering Box on the table with the bulletins.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray... Creator God, you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
All: **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE

P: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

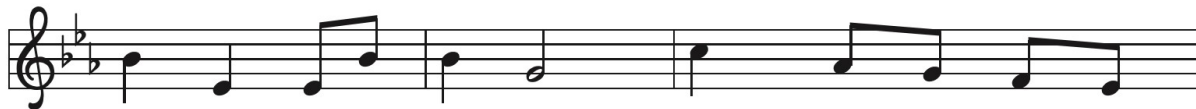
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... 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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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



God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the



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



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

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

**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 this meal, righteousness and peace meet together. Come take your place at the table.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

COMMUNION MUSIC: *As the Dark Awaits the Dawn* **ELW 261**
(Join in singing from the red ELW hymnal in the pew.)

COMMUNION BLESSING

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray... Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation. We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name.

All: **Amen**

BLESSING

P: God of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light, God, our hope for the journey,
✠ bless and keep you now and forever.

All: **Amen.**





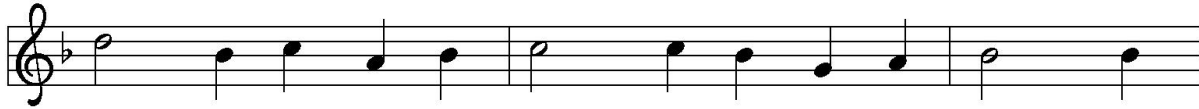
1 In thee is glad-ness a-mid all sad-ness, Je-sus, sun-shine of my
 2 Je-sus is ours! . . We fear no pow-ers, not of earth or sin or



heart. By thee are giv-en the gifts of heav-en, thou the
 death. He sees and bless-es in worst dis-tress-es; he can



true re-deem-er art. Our souls thou wak-est; our bonds thou
 change them with a breath. Where-fore the sto-ry tell of his



break-est. Who trusts thee sure-ly has built se-cure-ly
 glo-ry with heart and voic-es; all heav'n re-joic-es



and stands for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia! Our hearts are
 in him for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia! We shout for



pin-ing to see thy shin-ing, dy-ing or liv-ing,
 glad-ness, tri-umph o'er sad-ness, love him and praise him



to thee are cleav-ing; naught can us sev-er: Al-le-lu-ia!
 and still shall raise him glad hymns for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia!

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

All: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: IN DIR IST FREUDE (In Thee is Gladness)Johann Sebastian Bach

FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH

The altar flowers are given by son, Bill Kieffer, and daughter, Barb Casini, in memory of their mother, Anna Mae Kieffer who would have celebrated her 100th birthday on December 13th.

SERVING TODAY

Assisting Minister: Jim Huebner
Communion Assistants:..... Jen Keeler and Kendra Ruhl
Reader: Laurena Fox
Livestream: Kirk Sponaule
Acolytes:..... Malory Fox and Lucy Paul
Advent Wreath:..... Will Mariano



Dear Lord Jesus, When You walked upon this earth, You healed the sick, gave sight to the blind, caused the lame to walk, and raised the dead. Now we come to You on behalf of those who are in need today and pray that You would send them Your healing power. Hear our prayer for Your name's sake. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH TODAY

Bereaved: The family of Lou Bushman

Prayer Concerns: Susan Bianchi, Jack Bishop, Lucy Campbell (daughter of Jacob and Sarah Campbell), Barbie (Hocker) Colestock (friend of Kendra Ruhl), Donna Dixon, Bill Fosnacht, Glenn Hoffa, Chip Murray, Sharon Murray, Wanda Oliver (friend of the Lechleitner's), Julia Padgett, Tony Primerano (friend of Steve Shuey), Tom Rieger, Chris Ruff, and Jenn and Greg Shirk (friends of Sandy Stine) and Ed Zaenglein.

DAILY PRAYERS

Roberta Anderson, Jim Bomberger (friend of Jim and Peg Huebner), Carole Bowman, Virginia Frank, Mike Hamilton (friend of Kendra Ruhl and Steve Shuey), Drew Herdson (friend of the Dunham's), Dennis Lubold, Nancy Miller, Darrin Mineke (cousin of the Dunham's), Dona Pastuck, Ed Schaeffer, Georgie Sibert, Pete Stone, Bob Warden (friend of Mary Ann Kelly), Melissa West (friend of Susan Bianchi), Vwawa Congregation of the Konde Diocese in Tanzania and all of our Homebound members.

Members of Armed Forces and their families: Evan Briggs, Marshal Fox, Michael Kristian, Riley Litman, Patrick Stewart, Tory Young

We invite you to pray for all on our prayer list. Please contact the office by email at htluth@comcast.net or leave a message on the office phone (717-533-2467) if you have any changes to the prayer list.

Friendly Reminders

Thank you for joining us for worship today in-person and through livestreaming.

All are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We invite all people, as well as young children who are not yet receiving the Sacrament to come forward and receive a blessing. Please ask the Pastor if you need a gluten free option. At Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, the Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated in accordance with the

Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions. Thus, we believe that the Body and Blood of Christ are truly present in the bread and wine. At his table Christ grants us forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. *May your hearts be opened, and your lives made new by his gracious love.* Please give your completed communion card to the usher during communion.

Holy Communion distribution today: The usher will guide you down the center aisle. Prepackaged Communion elements with grape juice are available on the small table. If your preference is regular wine or non-alcoholic wine, take a cup from the silver trays. Proceed to the Pastor to receive a wafer or have the prepackaged elements blessed. Proceed to the rail where there will be an assistant on either side with regular wine. There will also be one assistant with non-alcoholic wine. Stand or kneel as you are able and remain at the rail for as long as you desire.

Consecrated Communion Elements are available for “Live Stream” worship at home. Please contact the church office at 717-533-2467 or by email at htluth@comcast.net to arrange to pick up elements or have them delivered to your home.

Office Hours The office will be open this week, Monday – Thursday, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. To contact the church: Phone Number: 717-533-2467, Email Address: htluth@comcast.net; Holy Trinity website: htluth.org. **In case of emergency** please call the church office and follow the prompts for emergency contact information.

Sunday School Information: All classes meet from 9:00am-9:45am. **Children’s Sunday School** meets in the Sunday School room (connected to the Fellowship Hall). **Confirmation Sunday School** for Grades 6-8 meets in the youth room. **Sunday School** for Grades 9-12 meets downstairs next to the Youth Room. **Adult Discussion** meets in room #16. All are welcome! There is No Sunday School for Confirmation Grades 6-8 or Grades 9-12 today.

Birthday Blessings! Susanne Wiest will celebrate her 100+ birthday in December. Her birthday is on December 24th, you can send cards to her at: 12 Conestoga Drive, Apt. 114, Lititz, PA 17543-7542. Susanne is celebrating her 104th birthday!

The Giving Tree Project benefits local families who are served by Hershey Food Bank and Community Outreach Ministry. We are collecting **\$25.00 gift cards** to support children and youth. They welcome all types of gift cards but gift cards like VISA and cards to stores like Target and Walmart that offer a wide range of merchandise are especially helpful. If you would like to participate, please bring gift cards to the church and put them in the Giving Tree box by **TODAY Sunday, December 15, 2024**. Another way to help is by making a **monetary contribution**. Checks should be made out to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church and put in the same box. There are envelopes available for your use. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

It's time to order Christmas flowers. Would you like to donate money for flowers at Christmas in honor or in memory of a loved one or for the beauty of the service? Please fill out the flower envelope from your offering envelopes, include a donation of any amount and mail it to the church office or put it in the offering plate. You can also pick up a Christmas Flower envelope on the small table in the Narthex. Please be sure that your name is

on the envelope and mark if the money is in honor or in memory of someone and who that person is. Please print neatly! All contributions must be in by **TODAY Sunday, December 15th**. Thank you for your cooperation.

HTY (the Youth Group) would like to thank the congregation for their support of the Community Night Fundraiser at Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant this past Monday. With your help, we were able to raise \$190 to go towards the HTY youth fund. We have another Community Night Fundraiser at Primanti Bros. Restaurant & Bar scheduled for Monday, January 27th from 11am - 11pm. Hope you can come out to it and support our youth!! Thanks, Peter Fox

Sing and Rejoice Choir: All school age youth are encouraged to join in singing with the Sing & Rejoice Choir. The next Sunday service at which they will sing is on December 22. Because of conflicts with the Youth Retreat weekend, we will only have one short practice in the Choir Room at 9:45 AM, right before the service, on Dec 22. However, youth are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the music in advance. Copies of the music have been emailed to affected families and also will be available at church today (See Izanne Leonard-Haak).

Faith in Action Advent Food Collection. During Advent, the Faith in Action committee is asking for donations for the Hershey Food Bank. There is a flyer in the narthex with a list of items not often donated. Any donations of non-perishable foods are also acceptable. We will deliver the collected goods to the Food Bank in January.

The 2nd Family Fellowship Luncheon is NEXT Sunday, December 22nd right after church from 11:15am to 1pm-ish. Come out to this special Christmas luncheon. We are inviting the folks from the Altar Guild to join us for the festivities. This event is open to ALL families and members of Holy Trinity!! At this December luncheon, we will enjoy conversation, share a meal, play table games, and help the Altar Guild with Christmas church set-up after lunch. Hope to see you and your family NEXT Sunday after church for this awesome event!!

We'll be decorating the sanctuary for Christmas and the Altar Guild would appreciate donations of your green yard cuttings. If you have greens you'd like to contribute, please contact Betsy Phillippy at 717-533-7151 or the church office at 717-533-2467. The sanctuary will be decorated on Sunday, December 22nd following the worship service. All are welcome to help.

Help Wanted! Do you consider yourself technically inclined? Computer-literate? You may be just what we need! Holy Trinity is seeking volunteers to help with Livestreaming our worship services. There are times when neither Kirk or Bob is available, and we need more volunteers to "learn the ropes." The process is easy to learn and would involve "on the job" training by shadowing/observing the operation for a few services. There are detailed instructions, and you can get more creative as you gain experience. Reach out to Kirk Sponaugle if you have questions: (717) 418-6271 or kirk.sponaugle@verizon.net. Thank you, Kirk and Bob, for your service!!!

Email Update- Some of our weekly emails to members are bouncing and being sent back. It seems to be isolated to AOL and Comcast email subscribers and not all Comcast & AOL subscribers have been affected. This makes it difficult for us to find the exact trigger that only affects certain emails and we are working to resolve this. Comcast has told us that it is possibly related to a recent update from Microsoft. Please remember that all news, bulletins and updates are available via our website. In the meantime, if you are affected and not receiving your weekly blasts, please add htluth@comcast.net to your safe senders contact list in your email server to be sure you are receiving emails. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Faith in Action Service Project- On Monday January 20th 2025, in conjunction with G2:10 Outreach, the Faith in Action committee is sponsoring a meal for the unsheltered in south Harrisburg at the Quality Inn Riverfront parking lot near Shipoke. January 20, 2025, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, is designated by Congress as a National Day of Service and is a great time for our congregation to serve our community. We have planned a menu and are looking for monetary and in-kind donations of food and clothing items. If you would like to drop off donations

or volunteer your time, please contact Rodney Gross at rodgross@comcast.net or (717)649-6224. A detailed list of food and clothing items and a sign-up sheet are available in the Narthex.

Many thanks for your generous donations! We continuously express our thanks to all for your faithfulness and generosity in giving which allows us to continue to operate valuable ministries and pay for the ongoing bills at Holy Trinity. The Simply Giving program offers automatic withdrawals from your bank account or charges to a credit card; donated through our website (htluth.org) by clicking on the ‘Give Now’ button; donated by downloading the Mobile App ‘GivePlus Church’ (be sure to select Ev. Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity) or by taking a picture of the QR code. Please contact the church if you have any questions about any of these methods.



Please send articles and announcements for the Newsletter to Anita Housman, our Communications/IT Specialist. Please send articles to her at aahousman2@gmail.com. She is always gathering announcements and articles for the monthly newsletter. Just a reminder – submit articles for the newsletter by the 15th of the month.

Readers, Greeters and Flower Deliverers for December and January are needed to greet people as they come into church and deliver flowers after the service on Sunday. Readers are needed to read the 1st and 2nd reading and the Psalm. The lists are available on the bulletin board. Please sign up today or contact the church office if you would like to volunteer.

Inclement Weather. Holy Trinity will follow the Derry Township School District schedule for cancellations in the case of inclement weather. If school is closed, no meetings, functions, or office hours will be held. Church services will be held, if at all possible, even when winter weather causes concern. If questions arise regarding cancellation of Sunday services check the Holy Trinity website or Facebook page and watch for cancellations on CBS21 or ABC27 or online at cbs21.com, or abc27.com.

2024 Contributions: If you would like a reminder of your current year-to-date giving for 2024, please contact Peg Huebner, 717-838-0686 (leave a message) or peghuebner@comcast.net. Contributions for 2024 must be received in 2024 or be postmarked by December 31, 2024 in order to be included in your End of Year Statement. All contributions after that time will be noted for 2025. End of Year Statements for 2024 will be available for pick up before and after the church service on January 12, 2025. All statements not picked up will be mailed after that date. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

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**Advent and Christmas Eve
Special Worship Service Schedule**

Longest Night Service
Wednesday, December 18, 2024
7 PM Worship Service with Holy Communion

Christmas Eve Services
Tuesday, December 24, 2024
3 PM Christmas Eve Service with Holy Communion
2:45 PM Musical Prelude
5 PM Family Service with Holy Communion and candle lighting
4:45 PM Musical Prelude
9 PM Festival Service of Holy Communion and candle lighting
8:45 PM Musical Prelude



You are Welcome Here!

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church welcomes and affirms everyone seeking God's love and grace, regardless of faith background, age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, ability, size, class, immigration, or relationship status. We explicitly stand against hate and discrimination, as our Church community strives to continually grow and learn within the Body of Christ according to Christ's teachings. We are committed to creating and maintaining a welcoming and safe environment for all people.