

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
and Lutheran Campus Ministry

300 E. Rosemary St., Chapel Hill, NC
(919) 942-2678 | holytrinitychapelhill.org



Nine Lessons & Carols for Advent & Christmas

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 22, 2024

8:30am Livestream and In-person Worship

11:00am In-person

Holy Trinity is "Mask-Friendly" for all in-person activities.
Whichever your preference regarding mask usage, you are welcome here.

We celebrate an open table for Holy Communion. Please see the back page for more information.
Please note that our 8:30am service is Livestreamed and broadcast on our YouTube channel.

PRELUDE

The Ukrainian Bell Carol
Angels from the Realm of Glory
Phyllis Eggers and Gretchen Ritola

arr. M. Bober
arr. M. Bober

WELCOME

THE ACCLAMATION OF THE NATIVITY

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.

For to us a child is born,
to us a Son is given.

His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for
 2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -
 3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when
 4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing, Sing out your joy, for
 man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is
 all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so
 dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.
 qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;
 qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.
 crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -
 mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -
 Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in
 Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and
 kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to
 won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and
 sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



lives now in - side us for - ev - er.
 shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.
 weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.
 bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen
 Text and music © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

*Who will give us life?
Who else can give us life?
Jesus,
Jesus,
we're waiting,
we're waiting for you.
You said you'd be coming.
Don't let our hope be futile.*

(Psalm 139:13, Micah 5:2, 4-5 Luke 1:46-55)

God who formed us in our mother's womb,

Restore our life in you.

Even though we are small, be mindful of your humble servants.

Restore our life in you.

Extend your mercy to all generations so we may live securely in peace.

Restore our life in you.

Come satisfy our hunger with good things as you promised.

Restore our life in you.

Scatter our pride and destroy our desires to find life away from your presence.

Restore our life in you.

We sit with Mary, expecting new life to be born that will change the world.

*We're waiting,
we're waiting for you.
You said you'd be coming.
Don't let our hope be futile.*

Eternal and steadfast God, help us embrace the ways we need to change to accept the new life you offer. We light this candle to enable a new flame to burn in each of our lives. May the Holy Spirit continue to transform us so we may live according to your will. Giver of life and light, shine through us so the world may know your love. **Amen.**

⁸They heard the sound of the Lord GOD walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord GOD among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the Lord GOD called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" ¹⁰He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." ¹¹He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" ¹²The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." ¹³Then the Lord GOD said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." ¹⁴The Lord GOD said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this,
 cursed are you among all animals
 and among all wild creatures;
 upon your belly you shall go,
 and dust you shall eat
 all the days of your life.

¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman,
 and between your offspring and hers;
 he will strike your head,
 and you will strike his heel."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

Adam Lay Ybounden
 Choir

by Mark Schweizer

*Adam lay ybounden, bounden in a bond,
 Four thousand winter thought he not too long;
 And all was for an apple, and apple that he took,
 As clerkes finden written in their book.
 Ne had the apple taken been, the apple taken been,
 Ne had never Our Lady ybeen heavene Queen.
 Blessed be the time that apple taken was:
 Therefore we moun singen: Deo Gratias.*

THE SECOND LESSON: Genesis 22:15-18

Gretchen Ritola

¹⁵The angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, ¹⁶and said, "By myself I have sworn, says the LORD: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, ¹⁸and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

David Bjorlin, b.1984



1. The God of Sa - rah praise, the
 2. The God of A - br'ham praise, the
 3. The God of Ha - gar praise, the



God of dreams long dead, who brings forth un - ex -
 God of all who roam, who guides us in - to
 God of those op - pressed, who sees the lost and



pect - ed life, dis - arm - ing dread. Though
 for - eign lands and makes our home. When
 o - ver - looked and calls them blessed. Though



grief lasts through the night, joy ris - es with the
 dark - ness shrouds our path, the stars, as pledg - es,
 wan - der - ing a - lone through des - erts of de -



sun; God leaves us laugh - ing in sur - prise at
 shine; God's cov - e - nant will be ful - filled by
 spair, God leads us to a well of hope and



death un - done.
 love's de - sign.
 meets us there.

² The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness —
on them light has shined.

⁶For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.

He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

The Lamb
Choir

by John Tavener

*Little lamb who made thee?
Dost thou know who made thee?
Gave thee life and bid thee feed
By the stream and o'er the mead?
Gave thee clothing of delight
Softest clothing wooly bright?
Gave thee such a tender voice
Making all the vales rejoice!*

*Little Lamb who made thee?
Dost thou know who made thee?
Little Lamb I'll tell thee
Little Lamb I'll tell thee!
He is called by thy name
For he calls himself a lamb
He is meek and he is mild
He became a little child
I a child and thou a lamb
We are called by his name
Little Lamb God bless thee
Little Lamb God bless thee*

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

² The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

³ His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;

⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

⁶ The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.

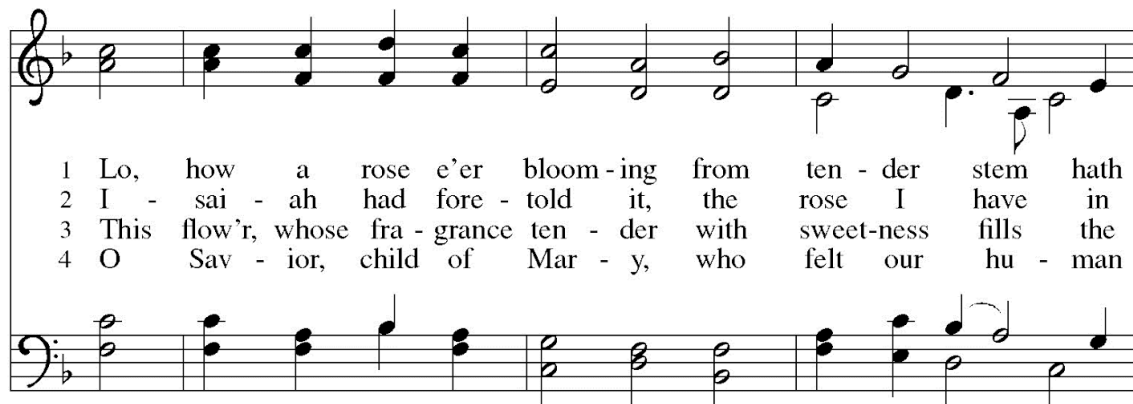
⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

⁹ They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

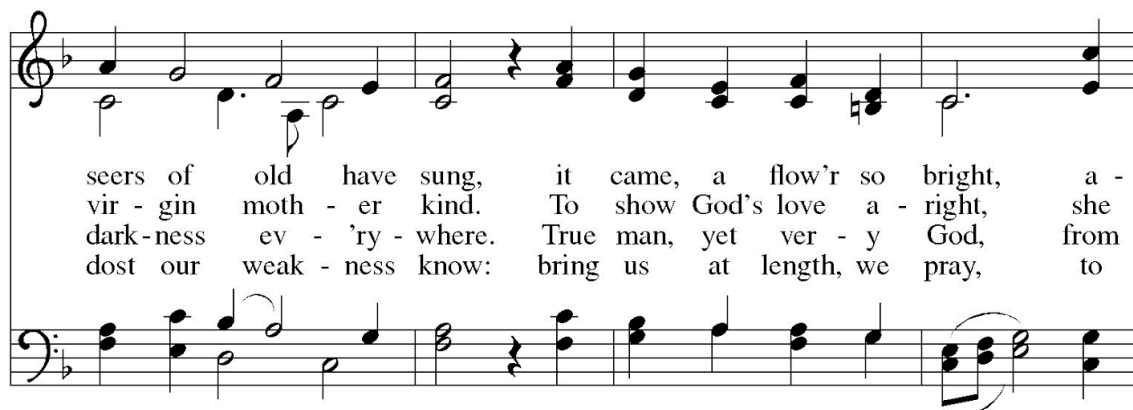
Congregation



1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing from ten - der stem hath
 2 I - sai - ah had fore - told it, the rose I have in
 3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the
 4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, who felt our hu - man



sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as
 mind; with Mar - y we be - hold it, the
 air, dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the
 woe; O Sav - ior, king of glo - ry, who



seers of old have sung, it came, a flow'r so bright, a -
 vir - gin moth - er kind. To show God's love a - right, she
 dark-ness ev - 'ry - where. True man, yet ver - y God, from
 dost our weak - ness know: bring us at length, we pray, to



mid the cold of win - ter, when half - spent was the night.
 bore to us a Sav - ior, when half - spent was the night.
 sin and death he saves us and light - ens ev - 'ry load.
 the bright courts of heav - en and in - to end - less day.

Text: German carol, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker, 1851–1934, sts. 1–2; Harriet R. Krauth,
 1845–1925, st. 3; John C. Mattes, 1876–1948, st. 4

Music: ES IST EIN ROS, *Alte catholische geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1599; arr. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Cantor, Congregation, Verse, Congregation 2X

Refrain

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

THE FIFTH LESSON: Luke 1:26-35, 38

Joyce Nord (8:30am)/Laurie Johnson (11am)

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

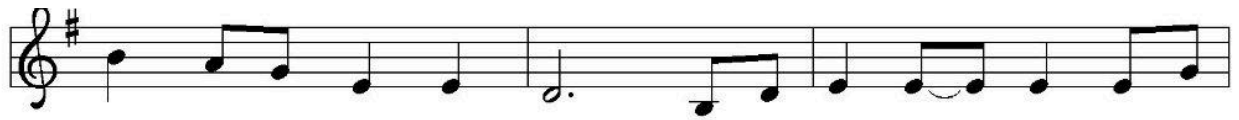
AN ADVENT HYMN

The Canticle of the Turning

ELW #723

Congregation

1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
 2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .
 3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a
 4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
 work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
 jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
 The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

A CHRISTMAS HYMN

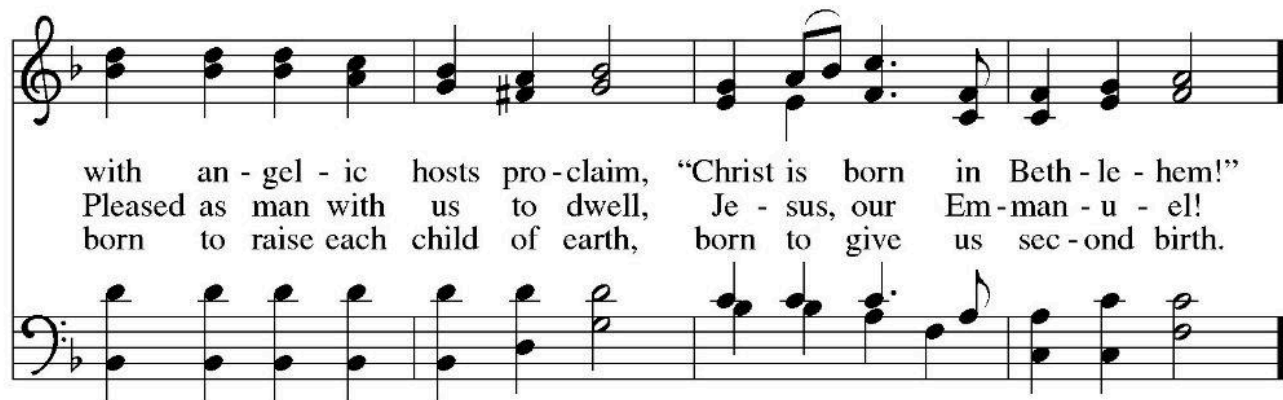
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
Congregation

ELW #270
arr. David Willcocks

1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king;
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ-teous-ness!

peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.

Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God-head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an-gel-ic hosts pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth-le-hem!"
 Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je-sus, our Em-man-u-el!
 born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec-ond birth.

Refrain



Hark! The her-ald an-gels sing, "Glo-ry to the new-born king!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.
 Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831-1915

THE SEVENTH LESSON: Luke 2:8-16

Haleh Brown (8:30am)/Aaron Stiles (11am)

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
 and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*We'll walk in the light, beautiful light,
 come where the dew-drops of mercy shine bright.
 Shine all around us by day and by night,
 Jesus, the Light of the world.*

*We'll walk in the light, beautiful light,
 come where the dew-drops of mercy shine bright.
 Shine all around us by day and by night,
 Jesus, the Light of the world.*

*Hark! the herald angels sing,
 "Glory to the newborn King,"
 Walk in the light, beautiful light,
 come where the dew-drops of mercy shine bright.
 Shine all around us by day and by night,
 Jesus, the Light of the world.*

*Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace!
 Christ, the everlasting Lord!
 Walk in the light, beautiful light,
 come where the dew-drops of mercy shine bright.
 Shine all around us by day and by night,
 Jesus, the Light of the world.*

THE EIGHTH LESSON: Matthew 2:1-11

Sylvia Black (8:30am)/Inger Brodey (11am)

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶"And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
 are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
 for from you shall come a ruler
 who is to shepherd my people Israel."

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped

over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

A Weary Couple
Choir

arr. Tony Alonso

*A weary couple lodged within a stable,
the only space where they could spend the night.
Were other trav'lers happy to be able
to keep her labor out of mind and sight?
But choirs of angels heard the mother's weeping,
and heaven rang with songs of peace on earth.
They went unheard by those in comfort sleeping,
for Jesus came among the outcasts at his birth.*

*An angel came to Joseph in his dreaming
and warned him so his family could flee.
As they escaped king Herod's evil scheming,
the son of God became a refugee.
How many children die without such warning?
How many mothers will not be consoled,
their voices choked with anger, tears, and mourning,
for songs unsung and stories never to be told?*

*But still the angels sing their hymn of "Glory"
beyond our fears that never seem to cease.
For Christ has come, and God's unfolding story
redeems the world to live in love, good will, and peace.*

Text: Adam M. L. Tice, b.1979; © 2017, GIA Publications, Inc.

Reflection from Adam Tice

The ongoing plight of refugees worldwide takes on a particular resonance at Christmas, when we celebrate the birth of a baby who almost immediately became a refugee himself. I shared my initial draft of this online. It was only two stanzas, and the ending was, admittedly, rather dark. Several folks contacted me requesting a more hopeful conclusion. I initially resisted the impulse, but composer Clay Zambo suggested providing some sort of interlude that would allow for a non-verbal response. That seemed perfect following "songs unsung and stories never told."

PRAYER

When children are abused,

You share in our anger.

When children are in pain,

You share in our distress.

When children are murdered,

You share in our horror.

When children die,

You share in our despair.

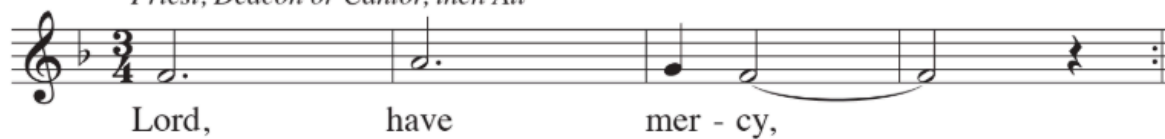
God, who welcomes and cherishes children,

we bring you our prayers:

We pray for children living and dying in places of fear and violence,

for children dying of hunger and disease.

Priest, Deacon or Cantor, then All



We pray for children who have been abducted from their homes,
for children who are pawns in political games.

We pray for children who are tortured and abused,
for children whose lives are short and full of pain.

Priest, Deacon or Cantor, then All



We pray for parents who have to watch their children die,
for parents who are unable to keep their children safe.

We pray for children and parents and guardians in our midst,
for all who love them and support them.

Priest, Deacon or Cantor, then All



Receive our prayers, Merciful God.

Guide our actions to advocate for justice.

Help us to be bold as we care for your children.

Amen.

Burgess, Ruth. *Hay and Stardust: Resources for Christmas to Candlemas*. (Wild Goose Publications: Glasgow, 2005).

The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

²He was in the beginning with God.

³**All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being.**

What has come into being ⁴in him was life,
and the life was the light of all people.

⁵The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.

⁷**He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.**

⁸He himself was not the light,
but he came to testify to the light.

⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰**He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him.**

¹¹He came to what was his own,
and his own people did not accept him.

¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name,
he gave power to become children of God,

¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man,
but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us,
and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

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

SILENCE FOR MEDITATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SHARING OF THE PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING

Carol of the Bells

arr. Mark Hayes

Sarah-Anne Stiles, liturgical dance



OFFERTORY PRAYER

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.
Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION
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.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

You formed us in your image
and breathed into us the breath of life.
When we turned away, and our love failed,
your love remained steadfast.
You delivered us from captivity,
made covenant to be our sovereign God,
and spoke to us through your prophets,
who looked for that day
when justice shall roll down like waters
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream,
when nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

And so, with your people on earth
and all the company of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord

God of hosts. Heav-en and earth are full of your

glo - ry. 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.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ,
 whom you sent in the fullness of time
 to be a light to the nations.
 You scatter the proud in the imagination of their hearts
 and have mercy on those who fear you
 from generation to generation.
 You put down the mighty from their thrones
 and exalt those of low degree.
 You fill the hungry with good things,
 and the rich you send empty away.

Your own Son came among us as a servant,
 to be Emmanuel, your presence with us.
 He humbled himself in obedience with your will
 and freely accepted death on a cross.
 By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
 you gave birth to your church,
 delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
 and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.
 In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection,
we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all creation from brokenness and death.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us, gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ,
redeemed by his blood.
By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other,
and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory
and we feast at his heavenly banquet.
Through your Son Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit in your holy church
all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father,
now and for ever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed 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.

COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

LAMB OF GOD

Cantor
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the

All
world, have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on

1. us. 2. us.

Cantor
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world,

All
grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Still, Still, Still
Phyllis Eggers and Gretchen Ritola

arr. by Melody Bober (8:30)

Away in a Manger

arr. Mark Hayes (11)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.
Amen.

BENEDICTION

Blessing the Way

With every step
you take,
this blessing rises up
to meet you.

It has been waiting
long ages for you.

Look close
and you can see
the layers of it,

how it has been fashioned
by those who walked
this road before you,

how it has been created
of nothing but
their determination
and their dreaming,

how it has taken
its form

from an ancient hope
that drew them forward
and made a way for them
when no way could be
seen.

Look closer
and you will see
this blessing
is not finished,

that you are part
of the path
it is preparing,

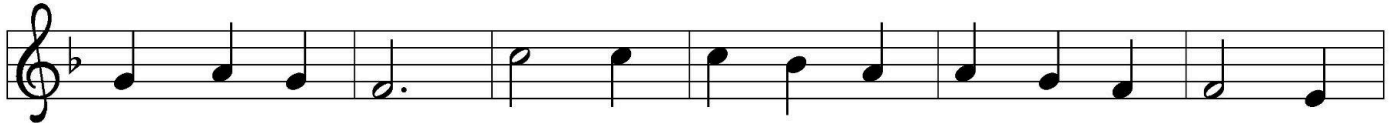
that you are how
this blessing means
to be a voice
within the wilderness

and a welcome
for the way.

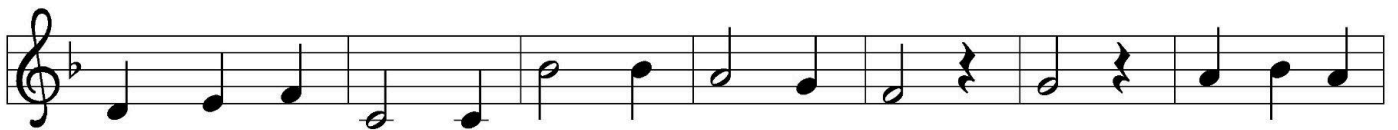
© Jan Richardson from *Circle of Grace: A Book of Blessings for the Seasons*. janrichardson.com



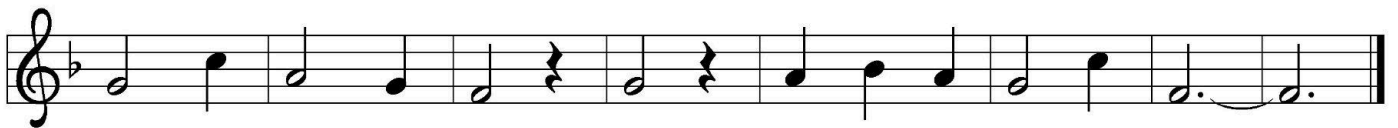
1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the
 2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -
 3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;
 sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;
 last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to
 what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the
 Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
 name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.
 gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Text: Ken Bible, b. 1950

Music: UN FLAMBEAU, F. Seguin, *Recueil de noëls composés en langue provençale*, 1856

Text © 1996 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (ASCAP), c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

SENDING

Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel, God With Us.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Sing We Now of Christmas

arr. Mark Hayes

Thank you for worshipping with us!

Permission to reprint/stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #A-712812. All rights reserved. Permission to stream liturgy and hymnody under Augsburg Fortress copyright or administration is granted by Sundaysandseasons.com subscription. CCLI License # 2001465. Permission to stream songs under the SongSelect® is granted by CCLI Streaming License # 20670071. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com

Common Bible: New Revised Standard Version Bible, © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

The Altar Flowers for today's worship service have been given by
Pam and Conrad Weiden.

The Assisting Minister is _____ and Richard Zink (11).
Altar Guild and Communion Assistants are Kathy Dennis and Chuck Matrazzo (8:30) and Marge
Dubnansky and Gretchen Ritola (11).

The Lectors are Sylvia Black (8:30) and Inger Brodey (11).
The usher is James Barrett.

The tradition of the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols dates from 1880. It was introduced by the Bishop of Truro, The Rt. Rev. E. W. Benson. In 1918, the service was adopted by King's College, Cambridge, where over the last century it has become justly famous. This service, in its original form, is broadcast from the Chapel at King's College every Christmas Eve.

The nine lessons remain the same each year. The anthems and carols may vary, although the service traditionally ends with Hark! The Herald Angels Sing. All of today's readers are faithful members of the music ministry here.

We pray that your Advent journey towards the Christmas celebration will be blessed by the beauty of these words and music.

This Week's Anniversaries

December 27 Judy and Bill Hawkinson
December 28 Linda Varblow and Jim Holloway
December 29 Cheryl and Arty Bolick

This Week's Birthdays

December 23 Eric Levin
December 24 Bill Johnson
December 25 Linda Varblow
Tracy Gubbins
Gabriel Nelson
December 26 Scott Hendrix
Rowan Rieth
December 27 William Griffith
December 28 Signe Offenbergl
December 29 Mike Krier
Hunter Koch



MAY YOUR CHRISTMAS BE BLESSED BY
CHRIST'S BIRTH

**Please join us for
our Christmas Eve
Services at 4pm
and 8pm!**

We will have one service
on Dec. 29th at 10am



Sunday School resumes
January 5th at 9:45am

Parish Pastor	Rev. William N. Rose III prwill@holytrinitychapelhill.org	(803) 237-6356
Campus Pastor	Rev. Katie Elkin Ziehr prkatie@holytrinitychapelhill.org	(704) 773-6557
Minister of Discipleship	Deacon Holly Shipley hshipley@holytrinitychapelhill.org	(859) 433-5102
Director of Worship and Music	Megan Mash mmash@holytrinitychapelhill.org	(816) 223-1953
Operations Coordinator	Grace French htlc@holytrinitychapelhill.org	(919) 942-2678
Financial Records Assistant	Toni Lehman	(919) 942-2678
Pastor Emeritus in Chaplaincy	Rev. Claude Deal	
Ministry Center & Mailing Address	300 E. Rosemary Street, Chapel Hill, NC 27514	
Worship Center	227 E. Rosemary Street, Chapel Hill, NC 27514	
	Office: (919) 942-2678	
Office Hours	Monday – Thursday, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm Friday 9:00am- 1:00pm	

In case of emergency, please call either Pastor directly.
www.holytrinitychapelhill.org
Instagram: @unc_lcm @htlc_youth @holytrinitychapelhill
Facebook: Holy Trinity Lutheran – Chapel Hill
YouTube: Holy Trinity Chapel Hill

Welcome to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church and Lutheran Campus Ministry!

We are so glad you chose to worship with us, and we hope you experience the love and grace of God in our midst. Please fill out the “Worship Record Sheet” to record your attendance and explore ways to engage with our community of faith by using the QR code or paper sheet.

Please sign up for our weekly Email Newsletter by visiting our website at www.holytrinitychapelhill.org, and subscribe to our YouTube channel at “Holy Trinity Chapel Hill”. Let us know if you have any prayer requests and how we can support you in your faith journey, either by talking to a Pastor or a Stephen Minister.



Reconciling In Christ

Jesus reached across all boundaries to make God’s love known, and in our baptismal covenant we are called to “serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth (ELW pg. 236).” As a Reconciling In Christ church, we at Holy Trinity welcome people of every age and ability, race, culture, religion, class, marital status, gender identity, and sexual orientation.

Children and Worship

We welcome children in worship and invite them to participate throughout the service. Children are invited to check out our Exploration Station in the Narthex and fill up a Busy Bag for activities during worship. If your child needs some time away from the service, there is a staffed “Cry Room” (glass room near the Sanctuary, towards the Rosemary Street entrance). The service is able to be heard through speakers in the Cry Room. There is also a Nursery room in the back hallway (behind the organ) where children can play with parental supervision.

Holy Communion

At the table of our Lord Jesus Christ, God nourishes faith, forgives sin, and calls us to be witnesses to the Gospel. Believing in the real presence of Christ, HTLC practices Eucharistic hospitality: The Risen Christ welcomes all, therefore all are welcome to commune here. Receive the bread first, then the individual glasses containing (red) wine or (white) grape juice. Allergen-free communion wafers are available at the station in front of the altar. Those desiring not to commune may fold their hands to receive a blessing. Please let an usher or pastor know if you need communion brought to you at your seat.

Offering

In response to God’s unconditional love, we offer “what God has first given us; ourselves, our time and our possessions... in feeding the world with God’s love (ELW pg. 107).”

There are many ways to give at Holy Trinity: online through our **website, mailing in** your offering, placing your offering in our **offering plates** in our Worship Center, automatic **bank withdraws**, through the **QR code** in this worship bulletin, **text to give** at (833) 309-0136, or by **Venmo, our handle is @htlclcm** (Charity - Holy Trinity Lutheran Church). All contributions via text or Venmo will go to the HTLC general budget fund. Thank You!

Lutheran Campus Ministry at Holy Trinity

LCM is a community where ALL are welcome. We seek to accompany students as they encounter increased complexities in life, faith, relationships, and academics here at UNC. If you are (or you know) a student who is interested in getting connected with Campus Ministry, please get in touch with Pastor Katie by emailing her directly, or by using the QR code above to fill out the Worship Record Sheet. Mark “student” and/or “grad student,” leave an email/phone number, and Pastor Katie will reach out!