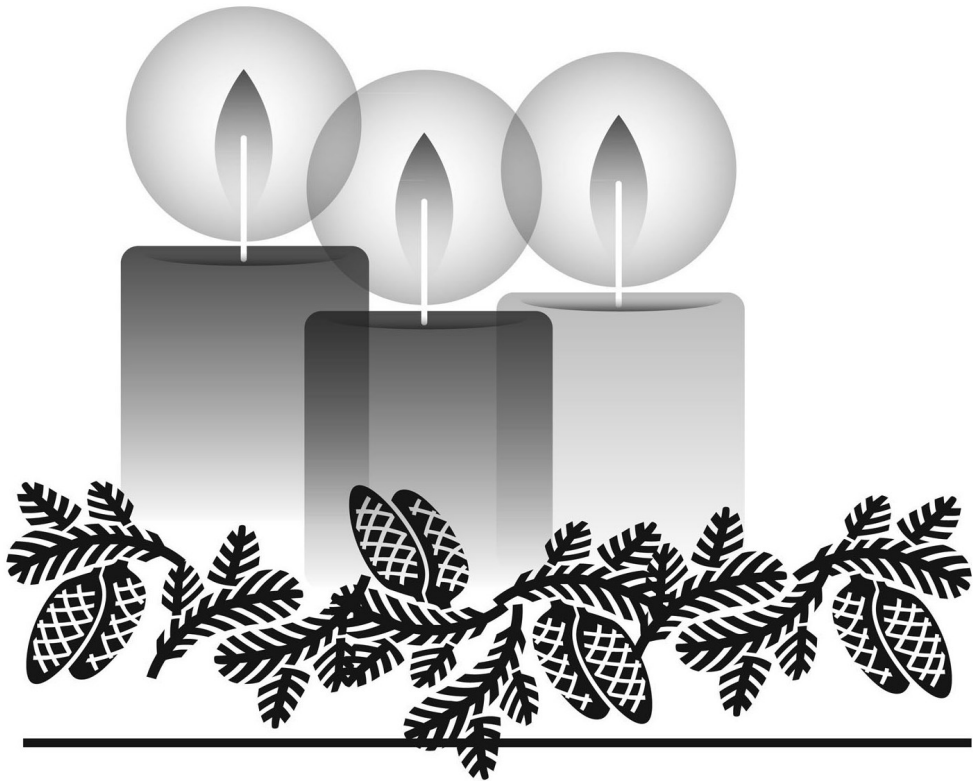


# Third Sunday of Advent



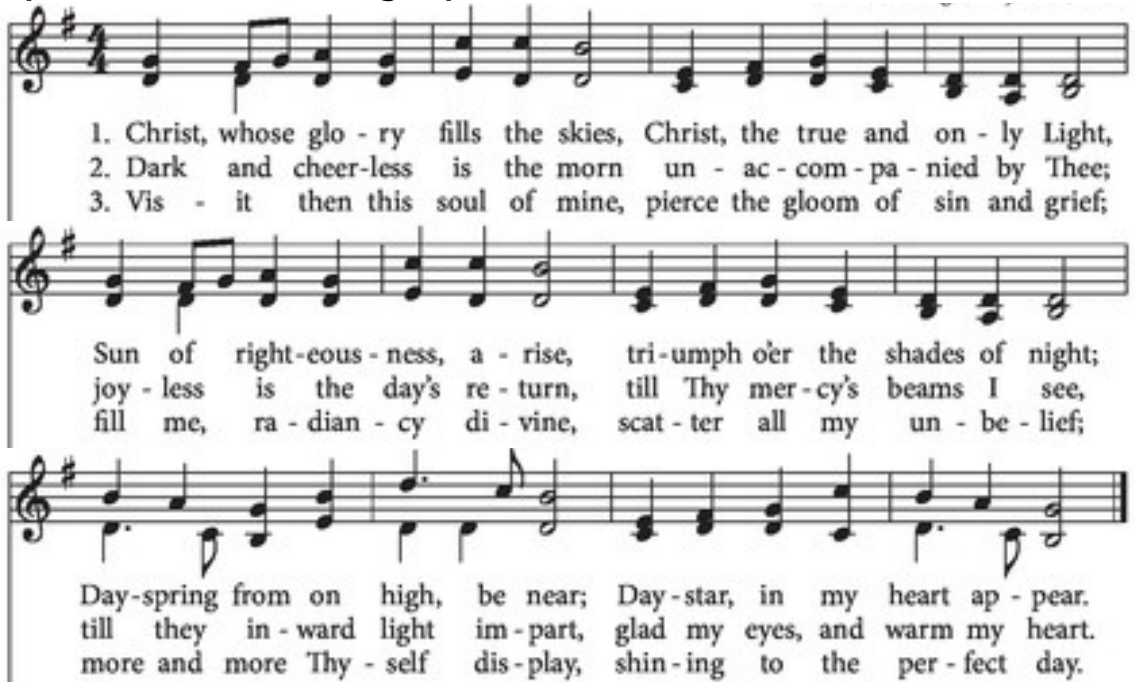
**December 17, 2023**

**9:00 & 11:00 a.m.**

*Before the service, speak to the Lord;  
During the service, let the Lord speak to you;  
After the service, speak to one another.*

Prelude MaryAnn Hubbard, Flute

### Hymn "Christ, whose glory fills the skies"



1. Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ, the true and on - ly Light,  
2. Dark and cheer-less is the morn un - ac - com - pa - nied by Thee;  
3. Vis - it then this soul of mine, pierce the gloom of sin and grief;

Sun of right-eous - ness, a - rise, tri-umph o'er the shades of night;  
joy - less is the day's re - turn, till Thy mer - cy's beams I see,  
fill me, ra - dian - cy di - vine, scat - ter all my un - be - lief;

Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap - pear.  
till they in - ward light im - part, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.  
more and more Thy - self dis - play, shin - ing to the per - fect day.

*Words: Conrad Kocher, adapt. William H. Monk; Music: Charles Wesley. Public domain.*

### Lighting of the Advent Candle - Choir & Congregation

Hope for God's Presence (*Responsive Litany*)

*Leader* In this season of Advent, we celebrate with joyful hearts.

*People* **Christ is our light and the source of our joy.**

*Leader* We count our blessings, and give thanks for God's goodness and grace.

*People* **Christ is our light and the source of our joy.**

*Leader* We strive to search for the good in neighbors near and far.

*People* **Christ is our light and the source of our joy.**

*Leader* We remember that God has promised us full and joyful lives.

*People* **Christ is our light and the source of our joy.**

## Candle Lighting

This morning we light three candles—the candles of hope, peace, and today, joy. This candle reminds us that we have reason to be joyful, even in the midst of strife. We remember that the angel proclaimed Christ’s birth as “Good news of great joy, to all people.” We celebrate today with joyful hearts and commit ourselves to spreading that joy to the world around us.

### Love’s Pure Light Congregational part

“*Gesù Bambino*”  
Music: Pietro Yon

Words and Arranged by  
JOEL RANEY

O come, O come, Em - man - u -  
el, and end this gloom of night. Bring  
hope to the world, bring peace to the  
earth, and fill us with love's pure light.

The image shows a musical score for a congregational part. It consists of four staves of music in a 3/4 time signature, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat, and a 3/4 time signature. The notes are: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), Bb4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter). The second staff continues: D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter), Bb3 (quarter), A3 (quarter), G3 (quarter), F3 (quarter), E3 (quarter), D3 (quarter). The third staff continues: C3 (quarter), Bb2 (quarter), A2 (quarter), G2 (quarter), F2 (quarter), E2 (quarter), D2 (quarter), C2 (quarter). The fourth staff concludes: Bb1 (quarter), A1 (quarter), G1 (quarter), F1 (quarter), E1 (quarter), D1 (quarter), C1 (quarter), Bb0 (quarter).

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## Closing Prayer

Gracious God, as we continue our Advent journey, we ask that you open our eyes to the beauty and goodness around us, and fill our hearts with grateful joy. Remind us that Christ is our light and the source of all joy, and that we are here to serve you and to spread that joy to others. Amen.

*The complete text begins on page 323 of The Book of Common Prayer.*

*Priest* Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*People* **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

### Collect for Purity

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Then the following may be said*

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

*Here is said*

*Priest* Lord, have mercy upon us.

*People* **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

*Priest* Lord, have mercy upon us.

### The Collect of the Day

*Priest* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Priest* Let us pray.

*Priest* Stir up thy power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honor and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

### Special Music "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" arr. Judy Nishimura

MaryAnn Hubbard and Vivian Furtaw, Flutes

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## The Lessons

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Psalm 126

The LORD has done great things for us,  
and we are glad in deed.

From *A HymnTune Psalter, Revised Common Lectionary Edition* © 2007 by Carl P. Daw, Jr. and Kevin R. Hackett. Church Publishing Incorporated. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

- 1 When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, \*  
then were we like those who dream.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, \*  
and our tongue with shouts of joy.
- 3 Then they said among the nations, \*  
"The LORD has done great things for them." **Refrain**
- 5 Restore our fortunes, O LORD, \*  
like the watercourses of the Negev.
- 6 Those who sowed with tears \*  
will reap with songs of joy.
- 7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, \*  
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves. **Refrain**

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## Sequence “People, look East”



1. Peo - ple, look East. The time is near of the crown-ing of the  
4. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall  
5. An - gels, an - nounce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to



1. year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble, trim the hearth and set the  
4. brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er, bright as sun and moon to -  
5. earth. Set ev - ery peak and val - ley hum - ming with the word, the Lord is



1. ta - ble. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the guest is on the way.  
4. geth - er. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the star is on the way.  
5. com - ing. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the Lord is on the way.

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*Priest* The holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.  
*People* **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

John 1:6-8, 19-28

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, “I am not the Messiah.” And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the prophet?” He answered, “No.” Then they said to him, “Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” He said, “I am the voice of one crying out in the

wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’” as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, “Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?” John answered them, “I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.” This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

*Priest* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

**The Sermon**            The Rev. Mark Rutenbar

### **The 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:**

**by the power of the Holy Spirit**

**he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.**

**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.**

**With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.**

**He 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.**

### **The Prayers of the People**

*The Deacon or other person appointed says*

**Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

*After each paragraph of this prayer, the People may make an appropriate response, as directed.*

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, especially our Presiding Bishop Michael and our Assisting Bishop Skip, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor Audrey, Lotte, Patti, Debbie, Carol, Betty, Lee, Ginny, Bruce, Maggie, Matthew, Bob, Daryl, Jim, Mike, Andrew, Joyce, Carol, Phil, Jim, Bishop Curry and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

*Additional petitions and thanksgivings may be included here.*

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

*The Deacon says*

Ye who do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: Draw near with faith, and make your humble confession to Almighty God, devoutly kneeling.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister and People*

**Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The Priest says*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*A Minister may then say one or more of the following sentences, first saying*

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. *Matthew 11:28*

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *John 3:16*

## **The Peace**

*Priest* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*The People may then greet one another with a sign of peace.*

## **Offertory**

Anthem "Come To Set Us Free"

Jean Anne Shafferman/arr. Lloyd Larson

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Doxology (*Old Hundredth, Hymn 380 v. 3*)    *Words: Thomas Ken. Public domain.*

\*3 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heaven-ly host: praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost.

**The Great Thanksgiving**

*The complete text begins on p. 333, BCP*

*Eucharistic Prayer 1*

*Priest* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Priest* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

*Priest* Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

*People* **It is meet and right so to do.**

*Priest* It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

*Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.*

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

*Celebrant and People (spoken at 9 a.m.)*

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:  
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.  
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.  
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

*Celebrant and People (sung at 11 a.m.)*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and  
might, \_\_\_\_\_ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,  
God of power and might, \_\_\_\_\_ hea - ven and earth are  
full, \_\_\_\_\_ full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na  
in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes \_\_\_\_\_

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na

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

*Then the Priest continues*

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Priest is to hold it or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

*Priest and People*

**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,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

## The Breaking of the Bread

*The Bread is broken and silence is kept. Then may be said*

*Priest* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*The following prayer is said*

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. **Amen.**

*Invitation to Communion*

*A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.*

*Optional Prayer for those who cannot receive*

Beloved Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you. Let me never be separated from you in this life or in the life to come. Amen.

## Hymns During Communion

Hymn "In the bleak mid-winter"



1. In the bleak mid - win - ter, Frost - y wind made moan,  
2. Heav - en can - not hold Him, Nor the earth sus - tain;  
3. What can I give Him, Poor as I am?

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Earth stood hard as i - ron, Wa - ter like a stone.  
 Heav'n and earth shall flee a - way When He comes to reign.  
 If I were a shep - herd, I would bring a lamb;

Snow had fall - en, snow on snow, Snow on snow,  
 God Him - self be - came a man - Born to pay sin's price;  
 If I were a wise man, I would do my part.

In the bleak mid - win - ter, Long, long a - go.  
 He's the great Re - deem - er, Je - sus Christ.  
 What can I give Him? Give Him all my heart.

WORDS: Christina Rossetti, 1830-1894  
 MUSIC: Gustav T. Holst, 1874-1934

CRANHAM  
 Irregular

### Hymn "Prepare the royal highway"

- 1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
- 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing; your own e - ter - nal king!
- 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
- 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.

Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!  
 Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!  
 Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.  
 His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:  
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!  
All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:  
So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



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

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*  
Music: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.  
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

*After Communion, all say*

**Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.**

*The Priest bestows the blessing*

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## Closing “My soul gives glory to my God”

1 My soul gives glo - ry to my God. My  
2 My God has done great things for me: yes,  
heart pours out its praise. God lift - ed up my  
ho - ly is this name. All peo - ple will de -  
low - li - ness in man - y mar - vel - ous ways.  
clare me blessed, and bless - ings they shall claim.

Words: Miriam Therese Winter © 1987 Medical Mission Sisters. All rights reserved. Used by permission.  
Music: *Morning Song*, melody att. Elkanah Kelsay Dare (1782-1826); harm. Charles H. Webb  
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*The Deacon (or if no Deacon, the Priest) dismisses the People.*

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

## In Our Prayers

**LARCC:** Youth Ministry at All Saints Catholic Parish

**For Healing & Convalescing:** Audrey Himes, Lotte Rosenberg, Patti Rockwell, Debbie Sanborn, Carol Hart, Betty Bartley, Lee Harris, Ginny French, Bruce Connon, Maggie Lamb, Matthew Van Zetten, Bob Hanna, Daryl Hebert, Jim Tanner, Mike Tanner, Andrew, Joyce, Carol Putkamer, Phil, Jim Gilmet and The Most Rev. Michael Curry.

**Military:** Ashley Alexander, Tyler Ferrier, Joshua Gapske, Isaac Graham, John Hartman

**Birthdays:** Nancy Pettibone, Rich Bates (17), Dan Maxwell (19)

**Cycles of Prayer:** Diocesan: St. Paul's, Flint, Trinity Church, Grand Ledge and Church of the Good Shepherd, Allegan; Anglican: the Diocese of Ikwerre (Nigeria)

## The Flowers At The Altar

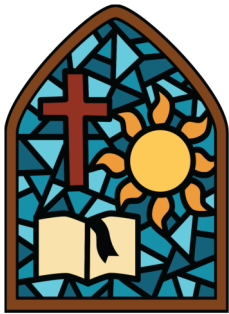
Given to the Glory of God  
and  
In Celebration  
of  
The Birthday of Vincent Basile  
by  
His Mom, Lisa Rhea

## Readings for December 24 - 11 a.m.

2 Samuel 7:1-11,16  
Canticle 15: The Song of Mary  
Romans 16:25-27  
Luke 1:26-38

## Readings for December 24 - 5 p.m.

Isaiah 9:2-7  
Psalm 96  
Titus 2:11-14  
Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]



# Future Worship Schedule

## Sunday, December 24

*(Only 1 morning service today)*

11 am - Holy Eucharist/Rev. Tom Downs  
5 pm - Festal Eucharist/Rev. Mark Rutenbar

## Monday, December 25

11 am - Holy Eucharist/Rev. Bruce Michaud

## Sunday, December 31

9 am - Holy Eucharist/Rev. Tom Downs  
11 am - Holy Eucharist/Rev. Tom Downs

## Wednesdays, December 20, 27 and January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

12:05 pm - Holy Eucharist/Rev. Bruce Michaud  
1:00 pm - Bible Study/Rev. Bruce Michaud

### This Week's Calendar

Today	9 & 11 AM 4 PM	Holy Eucharist Sunday Supper
Tuesday	1:30 PM 7 PM	Prayer Group AA
Wednesday	12:05 PM 1:05 PM 3 PM 5:15 PM 7 PM	Holy Eucharist The Good Book (Bible) Study Decorate the Church Choir Practice AA
Friday	5:30 PM	AA

## Announcements

### **COME HELP DECORATE THE CHURCH**

Save the date! **December 20 at 3 p.m.** That's the day and time we will decorate the church. NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY! It's a big job but if you help, we can make the big job much smaller. Everybody WELCOME

### **CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT/WORSHIP CENTER**

Our Christmas Pageant will be part of our 11 a.m. service on Christmas Eve morning, **Sunday, December 24.** *There will be NO Worship Center on Sunday, December 31.*

### **CHRISTMAS BASKETS FOR THOSE IN NEED**

Along with hats, gloves, scarves, etc. that we collect for those in need (**we especially need men's socks, gloves and hats**), we are also looking for monetary donations to help with our Christmas baskets for families in need this holiday season. Our usual soup luncheon, held to raise funds for this Christmas basket ministry, is not able to be held this year. If you would like to make a donation to help with our annual Christmas baskets, please place your contribution in the offering plate marked "Christmas Baskets" or mail to/drop off at the church office. For more information contact Ellen Eagan or the church office.

### **CHRISTMAS FLOWERS**

If you would like to contribute toward the Christmas flowers and decorations in memory of someone or in thanksgiving for God's blessings, place your check in the small, white envelope labeled Christmas flowers in the pew and fill out the front of the envelope. Then drop it in the collection plate. Or you can call Sonya Titus at (989) 354-6031. ***Deadline to have your information included in the Christmas Eve bulletin is December 17.***

### **WORSHIP LEADER TRAINING OFFERED**

The Diocese is providing training for those interested in becoming worship leaders, the first training occurring via Zoom on Saturday, January 13, from 10 am - 2 pm. Anyone who is interested or wants more information can contact Ellen Eagan.

### **PLEASE HELP US IN PREPARING THE 2024 BUDGET**

Our Stewardship Campaign has come to a close, but we have still not received pledge cards back from some of our members. ***If you haven't already done so, please prayerfully consider pledging and return your pledge card to the church office.*** This will help us to prepare our 2024 budget. Thank you.



# SPECIAL MUSIC PRIOR TO OUR CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

4:30 pm - Special Prelude Music

5:00 pm - Christmas Eve Festal Eucharist

Please plan to come early (4:30 pm) on Christmas Eve to enjoy the wonderful special music planned as a prelude to our service.



## **Trinity Episcopal Church**

**124 E. Washington Avenue**

**Alpena, MI 49707**

The Rev. Dr. Daniel Maxwell, Deacon

Mobile: (248) 568-7115

✧

Kat Tomaszewski, Music Director

Peggy Tomaszewski, Office Manager

Phone: (989) 356-0576 ✧ Email: [adminasst@trinityalpena.net](mailto:adminasst@trinityalpena.net)

Website: [www.trinityalpena.net](http://www.trinityalpena.net)

**Office Hours: Closed Mondays,**

**Tuesday - Thursday - 1pm to 5pm, Friday - 1pm to 3pm**

Welcome to Trinity, part of the Anglican Communion, and thus, both catholic and reformed — the *via media* or "middle way" between Roman Catholicism and Protestantism.

Trinity organized in 1864 and our Victorian Gothic building dates from 1883. As a "National Jubilee Center," we reach out to many in need, and as a venue for performing arts, we live out our identity as a "village church" in the English tradition.

In "Eucharistic hospitality," we invite all persons to the Lord's Table. Please join us there, and then, next door after the Service for refreshment and fellowship. We are delighted that you are here, and would be delighted to meet you.

### **The Vestry**

Ellen Eagan, Senior Warden

Ben Westrope, Junior Warden

Susan Fitzpatrick, Treasurer

Tina Wilson, Clerk

Duane Himes

Jim Masters

Cathy Meske

Lisa Rhea

Bill Powell

Sonya Titus

