

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH | Saline, Michigan

December 8, 2024

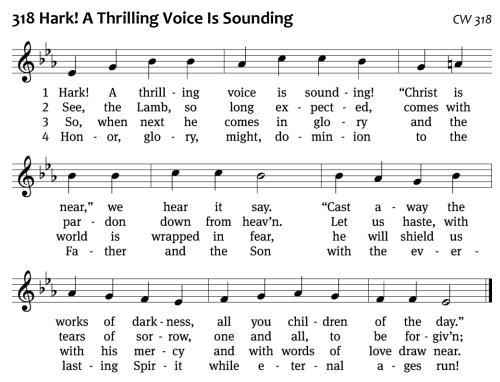
WELCOME TO WORSHIP

THANK YOU for joining us in God's house today! We cordially ask that our Guests with us today sign one of the guestbooks located at either the front or back entryways, or fill out a "Let's Get Acquainted" card located in the hymnal pew rack and place it in the collection plate.

THANK OFFERING: Members of Trinity give their offering as an expression of love and thankfulness to the Lord and to help support the Lord's work in our community and around the world. Visitors need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.

RESTROOMS are located at the back of the upper level (the annex), and in the basement (down the back stairs of the sanctuary or annex). Handicap access is available, please ask an usher for assistance.

YOUNG FAMILIES / TODDLER BAGS – We are GLAD YOU BROUGHT YOUR CHILDREN to our worship service. Jesus said: "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." We know that having little children in church can be a challenge, but DO NOT WORRY about it. Many of your fellow worshippers have been in your shoes and are just happy you brought your children with you. For your convenience, we have reserved the back rows of seating for parents with small children. These areas provide more flexibility for your family, as well as, easy access to move downstairs if necessary. A closed-circuit TV system allows families to continue participating in the service while downstairs. Pre-school toddler bags and children's bulletins are available for their enjoyment. Ask an usher for one to use during the service and please return the toddler bag afterwards.



Text: tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878, alt.; Latin, c. 5th–10th cent. Tune: William H. Monk, 1823–1889 Text and tune: Public domain

PLEASE STAND, IF YOU ARE ABLE

INVOCATION

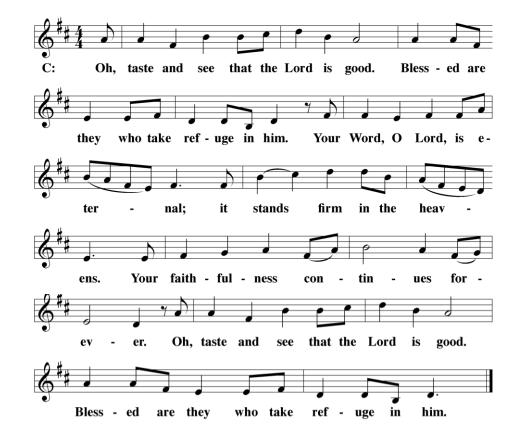
- M: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.
- C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

- M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.
- C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.
- M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.
- C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



OH, TASTE AND SEE

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming, give us strength in our conflicts, and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

PLEASE BE SEATED

The Word

First Reading

Malachi 3:1–7b

¹Look! I am sending my messenger! He will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord, whom you are seeking, will come to his temple! The Messenger of the Covenant, in whom you delight, will surely come, says the LORD of Armies.

²But who can endure the day when he comes? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he will be like a refiner's fire, like launderers bleach! ³He will be seated like a refiner and a purifier of silver. He will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and like silver. They will belong to the LORD and bring him an offering in righteousness.

⁴Judah and Jerusalem's offerings will be pleasing to the LORD as they were in the days of old, in years long ago.

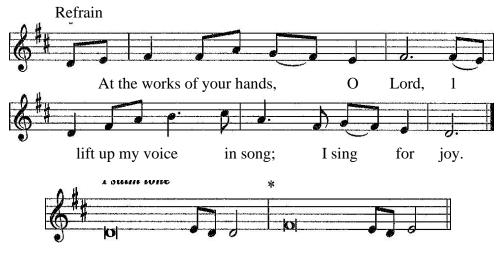
⁵I will approach you to judge you. I will be quick to give testimony against those who practice occult arts, those who commit adultery, those who swear false oaths, those who cheat workers out of their wages, those who wrong a widow and a fatherless child, those who turn away a resident alien—all those who do not fear me, says the LORD of Armies.

⁶Certainly I, the LORD, do not change. That is why you, sons of Jacob, have not come to an end. ⁷Since the days of your fathers, you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them.

Return to me, and I will return to you," says the LORD of Armies.

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

Psalm 66



Shout with joy to God, all the earth!*

Sing the glory of his name; make his praise glorious ! Praise our God, O peoples,*

let the sound of his praise be heard.

. He has preserved our lives* and kept our feet from slipping.

Refrain

Come and listen, all you who fear God;* let me tell you what he has done for me.
If I had cherished sin in my heart, * the Lord would not have listened;
but God has surely listened* and heard my voice in prayer.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son* and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning,* is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

Second Reading

Philippians 1:3-11

³I thank my God every time I remember you. ⁴Every time I pray for all of you, I always pray with joy, ⁵because of your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶I am convinced of this very thing: that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. ⁷I am equally convinced that it is right for me to think this way about all of you, because I have you in my heart, for both in my chains and in my defense and confirmation of the gospel, you all share in this grace with me. ⁸Yes, God is my witness of how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

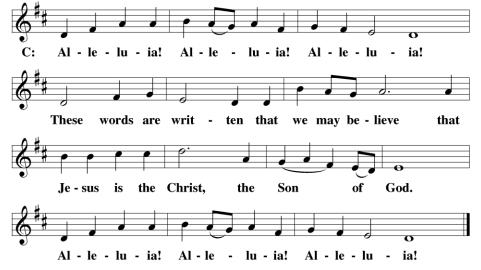
⁹And I pray that your love may still increase more and more in knowledge and every insight. ¹⁰This will result in your approval of the things that really matter, so that you will be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

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

VERSE OF THE DAY

Luke 3: 4, 6

Alleluia! Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. And all people will see God's salvation. Alleluia!



Gospel

¹In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—while Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod was tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip was tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias was tetrarch of Abilene— ²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John, the son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. ³He went into the whole region around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴Just as it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:

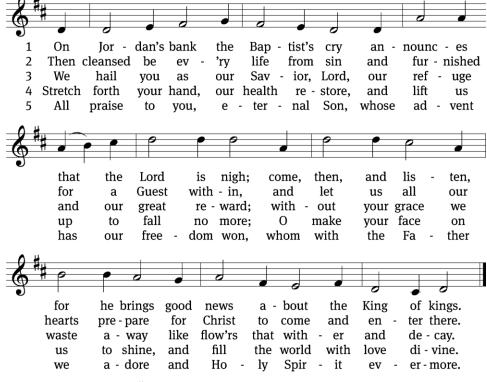
A voice of one calling in the wilderness, "Prepare the way of the Lord! Make his paths straight. ⁵Every valley will be filled, and every mountain and hill will be made low. The crooked will become straight, and the rough ways smooth. ⁶And everyone will see the salvation of God."

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

PLEASE BE SEATED

316 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

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Text: tr. composite; Charles Coffin, 1676–1749

Tune: Latin, 15th cent., adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621 Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

"Move the Mountain in Your Heart

PLEASE STAND, IF YOU ARE ABLE

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

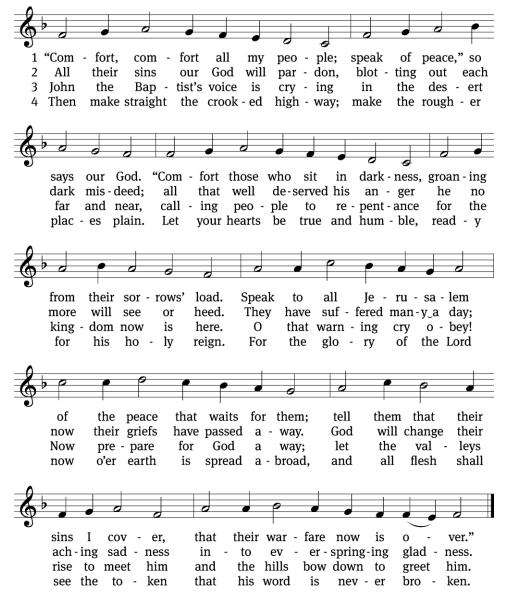
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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. 312 Comfort, Comfort All My People



Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; Johann G. Olearius, 1611–1684 Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, Geneva, 1551, ed. Louis Bourgeois Text and tune: Public domain

PLEASE STAND, IF YOU ARE ABLE

CLOSING PRAYER

M: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



PLEASE BE SEATED

321 God's Own Son Most Holy





Text: Johann Horn, c. 1490–1547, abr.; (sts. 1, 4): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; (sts. 2–3): tr. Michael D. Schultz, b. 1963 Tune: attr. Michael Weisse, c. 1480–1534

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SERVING IN WORSHIP

Officiant	Pastor Isaac Pappenfuss
Organist	Sarah Hanke
Instrumentalist	Amelia Hanke
Deacons	(8:30)Duane Mason and Dave Frey
	(11:00) Gary Knowlton and Robert Niethammer
Ushers	(8:30)Dale Finkbeiner and Mark Finkbeiner
	(11:00)Dave Boswell and Jake Vershum
Altar Guild	Judy Lindemann and Sharon Boswell
Videographer	Cindy Dresch

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