



THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER  
CHRISTMAS

*December 29, 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.

# SERVICE OF THE WORD

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## 362 Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising

CW 362



1 Come, your hearts and voic - es rais - ing, Christ the  
2 Christ, from heav'n to us de - scend - ing and in  
3 Ja - cob's Star in all its splen - dor beams with  
4 From the bond - age that op - pressed us, from sin's



Lord with glad - ness prais - ing; loud - ly sing his  
love our race be - friend - ing, in our need his  
com - fort sweet and ten - der, forc - ing Sa - tan  
fet - ters that pos - sessed us, from the grief that



love a - maz - ing, wor - thy folk of Christ - en - dom.  
help ex - tend - ing, saved us from the wi - ly foe.  
to sur - ren - der, break - ing all the pow'rs of hell.  
sore dis - tressed us, we, the cap - tives, now are free.

5 Oh, the joy beyond expressing  
when by faith we grasp this blessing,  
when, O Christ, we come addressing  
thanks to you and highest praise!

6 Gracious Child, in mercy hear us,  
from your lowly manger cheer us,  
gently lead us and be near us  
till we join th' angelic choir.

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, abr.  
Tune: German, 14th cent.  
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*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



C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are



they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -



ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -



ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -



ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.



Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, in mercy you sent your one and only Son to take upon himself our human nature. By his gracious coming, deliver us from the corruption of our sin, and transform us into the likeness of his glory; 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*

## First Reading

*Isaiah 50:4-9*

<sup>4</sup>The LORD God gave me a tongue like the learned, an instructed tongue,  
so I know how to sustain the weary with a word.

He wakes me up morning by morning.

He wakes up my ears so that I listen like the learned.

<sup>5</sup>The LORD God opened my ear,  
and I myself was not rebellious.

I did not turn back.

<sup>6</sup>I submitted my back to those who beat me,  
and my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard.  
I did not hide my face from disgrace and from spit.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD God will help me,  
so I will not be disgraced.

Therefore I have made my face hard like flint.

I know that I will not be put to shame.

<sup>8</sup>The one who will acquit me is near!

Who can accuse me?

Let us take our stand.

Who can pass judgment on me?

Let him approach me.

<sup>9</sup>Look, the LORD God will help me.

Who then can declare me guilty?

Look, all of them will wear out like a garment.

A moth will consume them.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

# Psalm

## 84A How Lovely

Psalm 84A

### Refrain



### Tone



How lovely is your / dwelling place,  
LORD Al- / mighty!  
My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts / of the LORD;  
my heart and my flesh cry out for the / living God.  
Blessed are those who dwell / in your house;  
they are ever / praising you. *Refrain*

Better is one day / in your courts  
than a thousand / elsewhere;  
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house / of my God  
than dwell in the tents of the / wicked.  
LORD Al- / mighty,  
blessed is the one who / trusts in you.  
**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son  
and to the Holy / Spirit,  
as it was in the be- / ginning,  
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain***

Tune: Thomas Pavlechko

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## Second Reading

Hebrews 2:10–18

<sup>10</sup>Certainly it was fitting for God (the one for whom and through whom everything exists), in leading many sons to glory, to bring the author of their salvation to his goal through sufferings. <sup>11</sup>For he who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified all have one Father. For that reason, he is not ashamed to call them brothers. <sup>12</sup>He says: I will declare your name to my brothers. Within the congregation I will sing your praise.

<sup>13</sup>And again: I will trust in him. And again: Here I am and the children God has given me.

<sup>14</sup>Therefore, since the children share flesh and blood, he also shared the same flesh and blood, so that through death he could destroy the one who had the power of death (that is, the Devil) <sup>15</sup>and free those who were held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death. <sup>16</sup>For surely he was not concerned with helping angels but with helping Abraham's offspring. <sup>17</sup>For this reason, he had to become like his brothers in every way, in order that he would be a merciful and faithful high priest in the things pertaining to God, so that he could pay for the sins of the people. <sup>18</sup>Indeed, because he suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*PLEASE STAND, IF YOU ARE ABLE*

## VERSE OF THE DAY

*Luke 2: 30, 31*

Alleluia! For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations. Alleluia!



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

## Gospel

Luke 2:41–52

<sup>41</sup>Every year his parents traveled to Jerusalem for the Passover Festival. <sup>42</sup>When he was twelve years old, they went up according to the custom of the Festival. <sup>43</sup>When the days had ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it. <sup>44</sup>Since they thought he was in their group, they went a day's journey. Then they began to look for him among their relatives and friends. <sup>45</sup>When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him.

<sup>46</sup>After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup>And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. <sup>48</sup>When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us this way? See, your father and I have been anxiously looking for you."

<sup>49</sup>He said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be taking care of my Father's business?" <sup>50</sup>They did not understand what he was telling them.

<sup>51</sup>He went down with them and came to Nazareth. He was always obedient to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart. <sup>52</sup>Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and with people.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

### 355 Let All Together Praise Our God

CW 355



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God be - fore his  
2 He leaves his heav'n - ly Fa - ther's throne, is born an  
3 He veils in flesh his pow'r di - vine a ser - vant's  
4 He un - der - takes a great ex - change, puts on our



high - est throne; to - day he o - pens heav'n a - gain and  
in - fant small, and in a man - ger, poor and lone, lies  
form to take, in want and low - li - ness must pine who  
hu - man frame, and in re - turn gives us his realm, his



gives us his own Son, and gives us his own Son.  
in a hum - ble stall, lies in a hum - ble stall.  
heav'n and earth did make, who heav'n and earth did make.  
glo - ry, and his name, his glo - ry, and his name.

5 He serves that I a lord may be—  
a great exchange indeed!  
Could Jesus' love do more for me  
to help me in my need,  
to help me in my need?

6 For us he opens wide the door  
of paradise today.  
The angel guards the gate no more;  
to God our thanks we pay,  
to God our thanks we pay.

Text: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480-1561, abr.; (sts. 1-3, 5-6): tr. August Crull, 1845-1923, sts. 1-3,5,6, alt.; (st. 4): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913-2001, st. 4  
Tune: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480-1561  
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*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.**

### 335 To Shepherds as They Watched by Night

CW 335



1 To shep - herds as they watched by night ap - peared a  
2 "At Beth - le - hem, in Da - vid's town, as Mi - cah  
3 O then re - joice that through his Son God is with  
4 What harm can sin and death then do? The true God



host of an - gels bright; "Be - hold the ten - der  
did of old make known. It is the Christ, your  
sin - ners now at one; made like your - selves of  
now a - bides with you. Let hell and Sa - tan



babe," they said, "in yon - der low - ly man - ger laid,  
Lord and King, who will to all sal - va - tion bring."  
flesh and blood, your broth - er is th'e - ter - nal God.  
storm and rave, Christ is your broth - er— you are safe.

- 5 Not one he will or can forsake;  
his promise he will never break.  
Let ev'ry scheme the tempter try,  
you may his utmost pow'rs defy.
- 6 You shall and must at last prevail;  
God's own you are, you cannot fail.  
To God forever sing your praise  
with joy and patience all your days.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–1887, alt.  
Tune: Latin, 15th cent., adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621  
Text and tune: Public domain

## 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*

# 330 Peace Came to Earth

CW 330



1 Peace came to earth at last that cho-sen night when an-gels  
 2 And who could be the same for hav-ing held the in-fant  
 3 You show the Fa-ther none has ev-er seen, in flesh and  
 4 How else could I have known you, O my God! How else could



clove the sky with song and light and God em-bod-ied  
 in their arms and lat-er felt the wound-ed hands and  
 blood you bore our griefs and pain, in bread and wine you  
 I have loved you, O my God! How else could I em-



love and sheathed his might— Who could but gasp: Im-man-u-el!  
 side, all doubts dis-pelled— Who could but sigh: Im-man-u-el!  
 vis-it us a-gain— Who could but see: Im-man-u-el!  
 brace you, O my God! Who could but pray: Im-man-u-el!



Who could but sing: Im-man-u-el!  
 Who could but shout: Im-man-u-el!  
 Who could but thrill: Im-man-u-el!  
 Who could but praise: Im-man-u-el!

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008

Tune: arr. Mark Kellner, 1959–2015, alt.; Richard Jeffrey, b. 1952

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**SERVING IN WORSHIP**

**Liturgist**..... Pastor Isaac Pappenfuss  
**Guest Preacher**..... Pastor Rodney Schwab  
**Organist** ..... Marcia Marion Ackling  
**Deacons**..... Duane Mason and Dave Stevenson  
**Ushers**..... Dale Finkbeiner and Mark Finkbeiner  
**Altar Guild** ..... Judy Lindemann and Sharon Boswell  
**Videographer** ..... Cindy Dresch

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