

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH | Saline, Michigan

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.



- 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. Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 727703 Tune: Public domain

PLEASE STAND, IF YOU ARE ABLE

INVOCATION

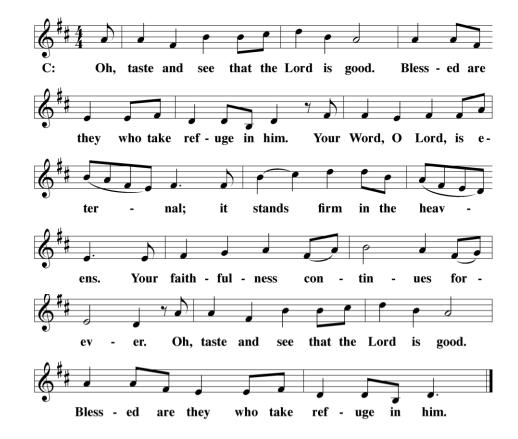
- M: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.
- C: And also with you.

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.

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

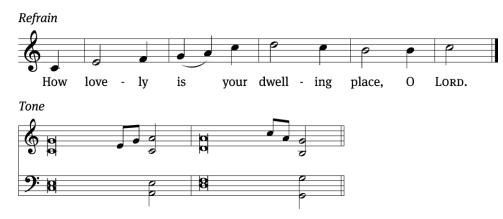
⁴The LORD God gave me a tongue like the learned, an instructed tongue, so I know how to sustain the weary with a word. He wakes me up morning by morning. He wakes up my ears so that I listen like the learned. ⁵The LORD God opened my ear, and I myself was not rebellious. I did not turn back. ⁶I submitted 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. ⁷The 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. ⁸The 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. 9Look, 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



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

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Second Reading

¹⁰Certainly 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. ¹¹For he who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified all have one Father. For that reason, he is not ashamed to call them brothers. ¹²He says: I will declare your name to my brothers. Within the congregation I will sing your praise.

¹³And again: I will trust in him. And again: Here I am and the children God has given me. ¹⁴Therefore, 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) ¹⁵and free those who were held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death. ¹⁶For surely he was not concerned with helping angels but with helping Abraham's offspring. ¹⁷For 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. ¹⁸Indeed, because he suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

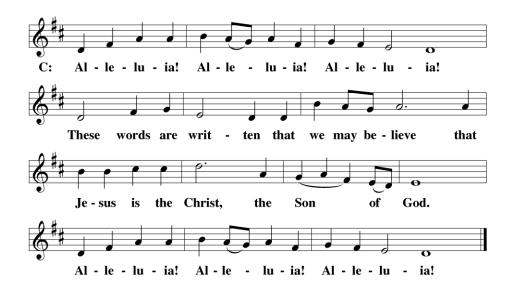
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

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!



Gospel

Luke 2:41-52

⁴¹Every year his parents traveled to Jerusalem for the Passover Festival. ⁴²When he was twelve years old, they went up according to the custom of the Festival. ⁴³When the days had ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it. ⁴⁴Since 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. ⁴⁵When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him.

⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸When 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."

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

⁵¹He 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. ⁵²Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and with people.

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



- 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.

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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

PLEASE STAND, IF YOU ARE ABLE

THE APOSTLES' CREED

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

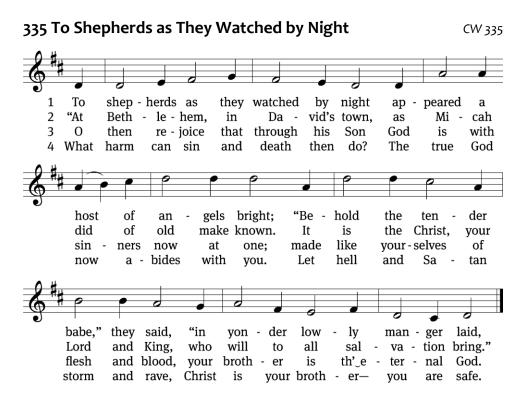
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand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



- 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.
- 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

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.

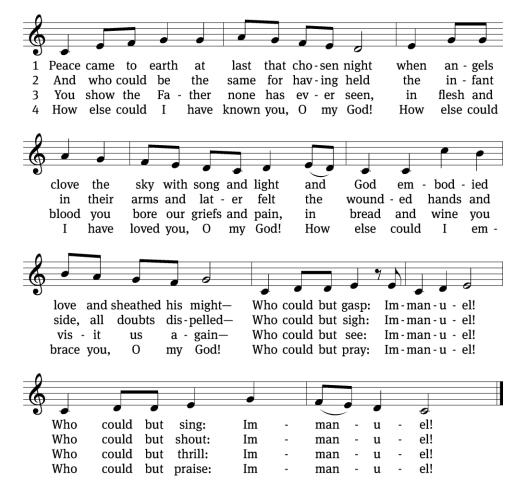
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



PLEASE BE SEATED

330 Peace Came to Earth



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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	
Ushers	Dale Finkbeiner and Mark Finkbeiner
Altar Guild	Judy Lindemann and Sharon Boswell
Videographer	5

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