



### **Trinity Lutheran Church**

292 Orange St., New Haven, CT

TrinityLutheranNH.org – (203) 787-6521

Service of Holy Communion—*Lutheran Book of Worship*, Setting II

The First Sunday after Christmas, December 29, 2024

In-Person at 10:15 am & Live at Facebook.com/TrinityLutheranNH

## **PRELUDE**

## **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Almighty God, to 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 your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

Most merciful God,

**We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen.**

The angel said, "Fear not...Mary will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen**

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN: "Joy to the World" LBW No. 39****APOSTOLIC GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**KYRIE**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen**

**GLORIA**

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

**Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:**

**We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:**

**You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,**

**you alone are the Most High,**

**Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Almighty God, you have filled us with the new light of the Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all that we do; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**FIRST LESSON: Jeremiah 31:7-14**

*God will save his people, bringing them back to their land and turning their sorrow into joy.*

Thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,

and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;  
 proclaim, give praise, and say,  
 "Save, O LORD, your people,  
 the remnant of Israel."

<sup>8</sup>See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,  
 and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,  
 among them the blind and the lame,  
 those with child and those in labor, together;  
 a great company, they shall return here.

<sup>9</sup>With weeping they shall come,  
 and with consolations I will lead them back,  
 I will let them walk by brooks of water,  
 in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;  
 for I have become a father to Israel,  
 and Ephraim is my firstborn.

<sup>10</sup>Hear the word of the LORD, O nations,  
 and declare it in the coastlands far away;  
 say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him,  
 and will keep him as a shepherd a flock."

<sup>11</sup>For the LORD has ransomed Jacob,  
 and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

<sup>12</sup>They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,  
 and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD,  
 over the grain, the wine, and the oil,  
 and over the young of the flock and the herd;  
 their life shall become like a watered garden,  
 and they shall never languish again.

<sup>13</sup>Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,  
 and the young men and the old shall be merry.  
 I will turn their mourning into joy,  
 I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.

<sup>14</sup>I will give the priests their fill of fatness,  
 and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,  
 says the LORD.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 147:13-21**

<sup>13</sup> Worship the Lord, | O Jerusalem;\*  
 praise your | God, O Zion;

<sup>14</sup> **for he has strengthened the bars | of your gates;\*  
 he has blessed your chil- | dren within you.**

<sup>15</sup> He has established peace | on your borders;\*  
 he satisfies you with the | finest wheat.

<sup>16</sup> **He sends out his command | to the earth,\*  
 and his word runs | very swiftly.**

<sup>17</sup> He gives | snow like wool;\*

he scatters hoar- | frost like ashes.

**18 He scatters his | hail like bread crumbs.\***

**Who can stand a- | gainst his cold?**

**19 He sends forth his | word and melts them;\***

he blows with his wind, and the | waters flow.

**20 He declares his | word to Jacob,\***

**his statutes and his judg- | ments to Israel.**

**21 He has not done so to any | other nation;\***

to them he has not revealed his judgments. | Hallelujah!

**Gloria Patri (chanted after the psalm)**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the / Holy Spirit;**

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be fore-/ ver. Amen**

## **SECOND LESSON: Ephesians 1:3-14**

*In Jesus Christ all of God's plans and purposes have been made known as heaven and earth are united in him. Through Christ we have been chosen as God's children and have been promised eternal salvation.*

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup>just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. <sup>5</sup>He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace <sup>8</sup>that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup>he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, <sup>10</sup>as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup>In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, <sup>12</sup>so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; <sup>14</sup>this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION/ALLELUIA**

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

## **GOSPEL: John 1:1-18**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*John begins his gospel with this prologue: a hymn to the Word through whom all things were created. This Word became flesh in Jesus and has brought grace and truth into the world.*

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup>in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

<sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup>And 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. <sup>15</sup>(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") <sup>16</sup>From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** *"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"* **LBW No. 55**

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

## **SERMON**

### **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**

D: In our prayers today and this week, please remember: [prayer list]. We also invite your own petitions either aloud or silently in your hearts.

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Almighty God, we praise you for your Word made flesh, your Son Jesus Christ, who dwells in your Church richly. Bless all your faithful people who carry the light of his love amidst the darkness this season. And may all that your Church does, in word or deed, be for your glory and for the sake of those he was born to save. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless this congregation called Trinity, destined for adoption as your children through Jesus Christ. As we have all received grace upon grace this Christmas, so send us as witnesses to testify to the True Light who has come into the world. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Though angels proclaimed peace and good will at the birth of Jesus, violence and evil still trouble our world. Guide those who lead our nation; and richly provide for all people, especially those in need. Keep watch over those who serve others in our communities. And by the coming of your Son establish your peace across the world and in every human heart. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Be gracious and merciful to all whose lives are shadowed by sickness or suffering in this season of light, especially those we have named before you or remember before you now. Grant that they may behold your salvation, dwell in the light of your love, and glorify you in the company of all who love them. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, your Son was born to save. We thank you for letting the light of your face shine upon all who have died trusting in his promises. Until that day when we are reunited around your throne, fill us with peace, love, forgiveness, compassion, kindness, humility, and patience – the enduring gifts of Christmas that shall last forever. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

P: Into your hands, O Lord...

## **PEACE**

**OFFERING** *The ushers collect the offering. You can also give electronically through our website, Facebook page, or by [clicking here](#).*

**CHOIR ANTHEM:** "A Stable Lamp is Lighted" Paulette Tollefson

**OFFERTORY:** "Let the Vineyards"

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

D: Let us pray...

Merciful Father,

**We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

## **LAMB OF GOD**

**THE COMMUNION** *To all who believe in Jesus Christ as their Lord, are baptized, and confess Jesus' real presence in the Holy Communion, we invite you to join us in the Holy Eucharist. At the usher's invitation you may come forward to kneel or stand at the altar rail. Please take an empty individual cup from the tray and bring it with you to the rail. The host wafer will be placed into your open hands to eat. Your cup will be filled from the pouring chalice, take and drink. Individual cups filled with non-alcoholic grape juice are also available, please point to receive one. Sealed pre-consecrated Communion packages are also available. Please remain at the altar rail until all have finished and a blessing is given.*

**COMMUNION HYMNS: LBW No. 42, WOV (Blue) No. 642**

**POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**Amen.**

**POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE:** *"Lord, Now You Let"*

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

D: Let us pray...

Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**Amen.**

**RECESSIONAL HYMN:** *"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"* **LBW No. 60**

**DISMISSAL**

D: Go in Peace, Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**