



## The First Sunday of Advent

November 27, 2022

Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Burlington, NJ 08016

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### HOLY TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

[www.holytrinityelc.org](http://www.holytrinityelc.org)

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License # A-713124 for music where applicable.

November 27, 2022

10:00am

### The First Sunday of Advent

#### Introduction

*The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.*

#### THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### THE PRELUDE

#### \*THE CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,  
who alone does wondrous things.

**Blessed be God's name forever.  
Amen.**

Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep.  
Let us confront our sins,  
and confess them to the one who is merciful and just  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of new beginnings,  
**we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign.  
We have strayed from your paths.  
We prepare for war instead of peace.  
We dishonor one another and your creation.  
Purify us with your refining fire  
and set us again on your way of love,  
that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance,  
and welcome your coming among us  
Amen.**

People of God,  
a new thing is growing in our midst, a tender branch, a living sign.  
By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder.  
You have put on + Christ, and your sins have been washed away.  
Rejoice in the way of the Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **THE GATHERING SONG: People Look East #248**

### **\* THE GREETING**

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

C: **And also with you.**

### **\* THE PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## **THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

### **The Prayer**

### **The Advent Verse #241 O Lord How Shall I Meet You**

O Lord, how shall I meet you,  
how welcome you aright?  
Your people long to greet you,  
my hope, my heart's delight!  
Oh, kindle, Lord most holy,  
your lamp within my breast  
to do in spirit lowly  
all that may please you best.

## **WORD**

### **First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5**

<sup>1</sup>The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. <sup>2</sup>In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. <sup>3</sup>Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths. (continued on page<sub>3</sub>4)

"For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. <sup>4</sup>He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

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

### **Psalm: Psalm 122**

<sup>1</sup>I was glad when they said to me,

"Let us go to the house of the LORD."

<sup>2</sup>**Now our feet are standing  
within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

<sup>3</sup>Jerusalem is built as a city  
that is at unity with itself;

<sup>4</sup>**to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD,  
the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the LORD.**

<sup>5</sup>For there are the thrones of judgment,  
the thrones of the house of David.

<sup>6</sup>**Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:  
"May they prosper who love you.**

<sup>7</sup>Peace be within your walls  
and quietness within your towers.

<sup>8</sup>**For the sake of my kindred and companions,  
I pray for your prosperity.**

<sup>9</sup>Because of the house of the LORD our God,  
I will seek to do you good."

### **Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14**

<sup>11</sup>Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; <sup>12</sup>the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; <sup>13</sup>let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup>Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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

\* **THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Sung page #216

**C: Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go? Alleluia You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

\* P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 24th chapter.

\* C: **Glory to you, O Lord!**

**Gospel: Matthew 24:36-44**

[Jesus said to the disciples,] <sup>36</sup>“About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>37</sup>For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup>For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup>and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>40</sup>Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>41</sup>Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>42</sup>Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup>But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup>Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

**P:** The Gospel of the Lord!

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**GOOD NEWS 101**

**THE SERMON**

**THE HYMN OF THE DAY: Rejoice, Rejoice Believers #244**

\* **THE APOSTLES' CREED** page 217

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.**<sub>5</sub>

(continued on page 6)

**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

**\*THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope

God, in Your mercy  
**Hear our prayer**

**PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**THANKSGIVING**

**OFFERING**

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

\* **CANTICLE OF THANKSGIVING** page 219

**\*THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD:**

Holy God,  
the Beginning and the Ending, our Hope as we wait,  
we praise you for joining us to your people of old.  
We bless you for your prophets who call us to righteousness  
and promise a new earth with peace for all.  
For the Word of your covenant, we thank you, O God.  
**We thank you, O God.**

We praise you for the coming of Jesus our Lord,  
who lifts up the lowly, heals the suffering world,  
and proclaims your way of mercy and truth.  
For your Word who is Christ, we magnify you, O God.  
**We magnify you, O God.**

Send your Spirit on all who receive your Word.  
Nurture our faith with your grace,  
accompany us with your might,  
and empower our zeal for your justice and joy.  
For your Word through the church, we praise you, O God.  
**We praise you, O God.**

All praise to you, holy God,  
today, tomorrow, and forever.  
**Amen.**

\* **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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## SENDING

\* **BLESSING**

God the eternal Word,  
who dwells with us in Jesus,  
and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit,  
✝ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

\* **THE SENDING SONG: The King Shall Come #260**

\* **THE DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is near.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### Serving Today: November 27

**Acolyte:** Allyson Schmalz

**Lector:** Lynn Haab

**Ushers:** Steve Anderson & Bonnie Mazza

### Serving Next Week: December 4

**Acolyte:** TBD

**Lector:** Judy Bariexca

**Communion Assistant:** Danielle Ercolani

**Ushers:** TBD



**It that time of year when your elected Council meets to look over and prepare our spending budget for the new year.**

Do you ever wonder how your offering is used. Plate offering not only supports the general day to day operations of the church, it pays the Church staff who keep the work going all week, not just on Sunday mornings. It supports the work of the Pastor, not just for leading us in worship, but for home & hospital visits, meeting with community families in need, participating in synod work and so much more. Your offering is used to maintain our building, painting, repairs etc. We ask that as you look over your personal budget for 2023; that you be in prayer about how much you are able to faithfully give to the work of the Lord here at Holy Trinity and the church worldwide.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**SUNDAY SERVICES:** Our Sunday morning worship services will continue at 10:00 AM. Services are also streamed live on our Facebook Page.

**THE CHURCH OFFICE** is usually open on Wednesdays and Fridays when Pastor is there. Bonnie will be in the office, Mon 10-2, Wed—Friday 10-2. You can always call and leave a message if you need us.

**SOCIAL MINISTRY OUTREACH** continues with our Philip the Bucket spare change Loud Offering on the first Sunday of each month. Our Offerings have gone to help those in need in our community. We are also continuing to collect nonperishable food items for St. Luke's Food Pantry.

**CONTEMPORARY SERVICES:** We are continuing with our Contemporary Services featuring *Voices That Reign*. Our next services will be on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of January @7pm.



**December 11**

**6:30 pm**

**Come out and enjoy a wonderful musical Christmas celebration featuring *Voices That Reign*.**

**Donations at the door will be used to help with our World Hunger Outreach**



***Voices That Reign Christmas CD***  
***Available next Sunday!***

Get a musical preview today as you join us for fellowship. The songs will be playing after worship. The album is available for a donation of \$15 to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church.



**Sunday, December 18  
@10am**

**The Sunday School youth and teachers tell the story of Christmas and help remind us all how much we are blessed by the birth of our Savior .**

**We are so glad you worshipped with us today.**

**Our hope is that you have a blessed week and we will see you again next Sunday.**

**If you are visiting and have any questions about Holy Trinity, please ask Pastor Haab, one of our Greeters, Ushers or any of our wonderful members.**

**Go in Peace and serve the Lord.**



**Christmas Eve, December 24th  
7 & 10pm**

**Christmas Day, December 25th  
10am**