



CIRCLE OF LIGHT: WITNESS

3rd Sunday of Advent

**Traditional Worship
8:30 and 11:00 am
December 17, 2017**



trinity | camp hill
LUTHERAN CHURCH



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LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church! Please sign the red Worship Witness booklet to record your attendance with us this day, and indicate how many are communing. Then pass the booklet to the worshipers beside you in your row. If you are a guest, name tags are available for you to wear--we would be delighted to greet you by name. Hearing assistance devices and large print bulletins are available from an usher.

about today's service

"Rejoice always," begins the reading from First Thessalonians. Isaiah and the psalmist make clear that God is turning our mourning into laughter and shouts of joy. "All God's children got a robe," go the words of the spiritual. It is not so much a stately, formal, pressed outfit as it is a set of party clothes, clothes that make us feel happy just to put on. We receive that robe in baptism, and in worship we gather for a foretaste of God's party.

P: Presiding Minister A: Assisting Minister L: Lector C: Congregation

✝ Gathering ✝

Prelude: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Nelson/McDonald

Meredith Schmehl, cello

Welcome and announcements

[Stand]

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who comes to wake us from sleep, who leads us into the light of grace.

C: Amen.

P: Let us prepare the way of the Lord by confessing our sin against God and neighbor.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

P: God of all time,

C: we confess that we have not prepared for your merciful reign among us. We ignore our neighbors in need and fail in the labor of justice and peace. In your mercy forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your light and to seek the things that will endure until Christ comes again in glory. Amen.

P: Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. In † Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven, and all things are made new. Rejoice in this good news!

C: Amen.

Please turn to face the processional cross as it enters our midst.

Gathering Hymn No. 246: Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding!

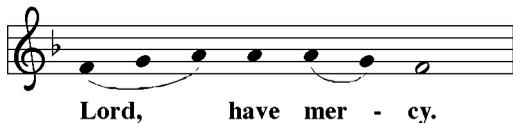
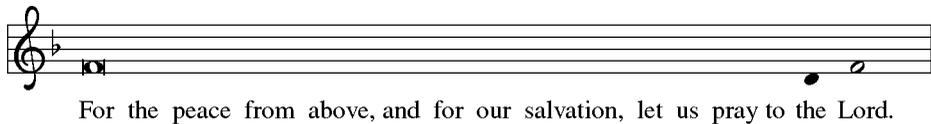
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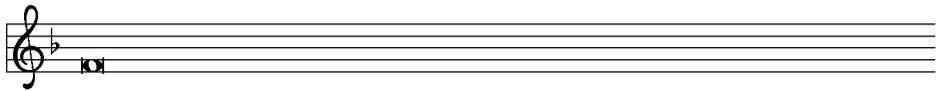
Greeting

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

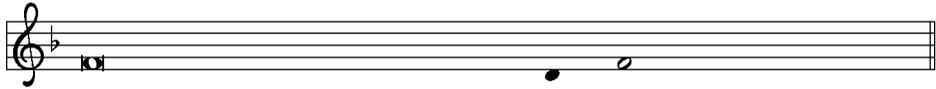
C: And also with you.

Kyrie





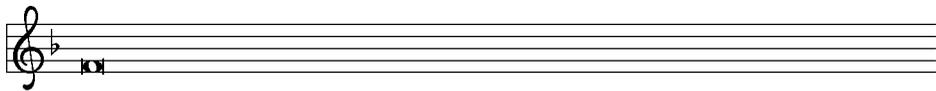
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



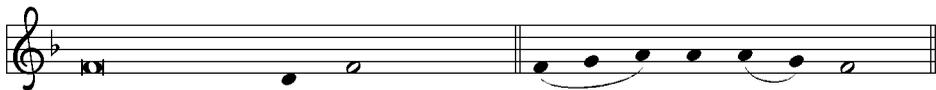
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

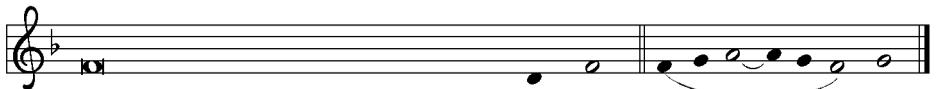


For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.

A - men.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Prayer

P: Lord Jesus, you continue to do great things for us. Give us your gift of peace as we await your coming.

C: Amen.

Hymn: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

**O come, strong Branch of Jesse, free
your own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell your people save,
and give them vict'ry o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the words of your prophets, that, anointed by your Spirit, we may testify to your light; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

[Sit]

✠ Word ✠

First Reading

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Though the people had returned to Jerusalem from exile in Babylon, they continued to face hardship and oppression. In the language of the jubilee year described in Leviticus 25, the prophet, moved by the spirit of the Lord, announces deliverance for those who are oppressed and comfort for those who mourn.

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; ²to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; ³to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. ⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. ⁸For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. ⁹Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. ¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

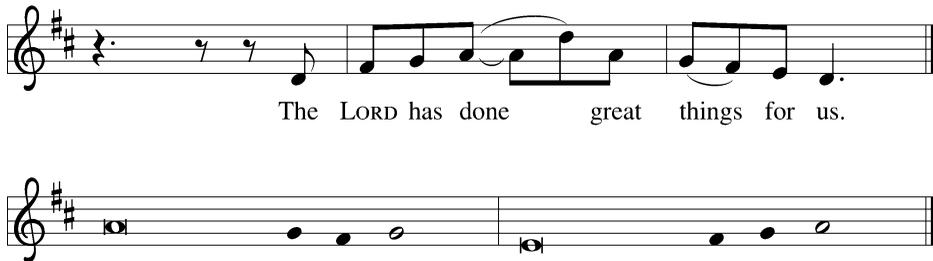
L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm for the Day

Psalm 126

The assisting minister will sing the refrain then the congregation will sing it.



The LORD has done great things for us.

A: When the Lord restored the for- | tunes of Zion, * then were we like | those who dream.

C: Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with | shouts of joy. * Then they said among the nations, "The Lord has done great | things for them."

A: The Lord has done great | things for us, * and we are | glad indeed.

C: Restore our for- | tunes, O Lord, * like the watercourses | of the Negeb.

Refrain:

A: Those who | sowed with tears * will reap with | songs of joy.

C: Those who go out weeping, carry- | ing the seed, * will come again with joy, shoulder- | ing their sheaves.

Refrain:

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Paul concludes his letter to the Thessalonians by encouraging them to live lives of continual joy, prayer, and thanksgiving. The closing blessing is grounded in the hope of Christ's coming.

Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit.

²⁰Do not despise the words of prophets, ²¹but test everything; hold fast to what is good; ²²abstain from every form of evil. ²³May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Message

[Stand]

Alleluia

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel Acclamation

P: The holy gospel according to St. John, the 1st chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel Reading

John 1:6-8, 19-28

John's gospel describes Jesus as the "light of the world." John the Baptist is presented as a witness to Jesus, one who directs attention away from himself to Christ, the true light.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ¹⁹This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" ²⁰He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." ²¹And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." ²²Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for

those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" ²³He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' " as the prophet Isaiah said. ²⁴Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. ²⁵They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" ²⁶John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, ²⁷the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." ²⁸This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

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

[Sit]

Sermon: "Circle of Light: Witness"

Pastor Jennifer A. Crist

[Stand]

Hymn of the Day No. 264: Prepare the Royal Highway

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

Prayers of Intercession

Each petition ends:

A: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Prayer Response (sung by all)

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

The first line of musical notation is for the prayer response. It consists of a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a bass clef staff. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Wait for the Lord, whose day is near." The music ends with a double bar line and a sharp sign.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

The second line of musical notation is for the prayer response. It consists of a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a bass clef staff. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!" The music ends with a double bar line and a sharp sign.

Text: Taizé Community

Music: WAIT FOR THE LORD, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994

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✝ Meal ✝

Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

[Sit]

Offering

Optional methods of giving: text an amount to 717-963-2281 (be sure to use a "\$"); use the Giving Station in the Gathering Space to donate by credit card.

Worship Witness: (Please sign booklet and return to center aisle.)

(8:30) "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" Kathleen Thomerson

I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.

In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.

Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father.

I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.

When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus.

Junior Choir

(11:00) Anthem: "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" Howard Helvey

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!

Of Jesse's lineage coming, as those of old have sung.

It came, a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind;

Mary we behold it, the Virgin Mother kind.

To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior, when half spent was the night.

This Flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,

Dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere;

True man, yet very God, from sin and death He saves us, and lightens every load.

Chancel Choir, Sara Schmehl, piano

[Stand]

Offertory



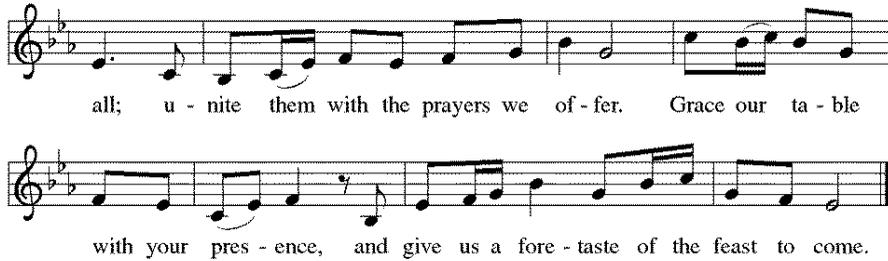
Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



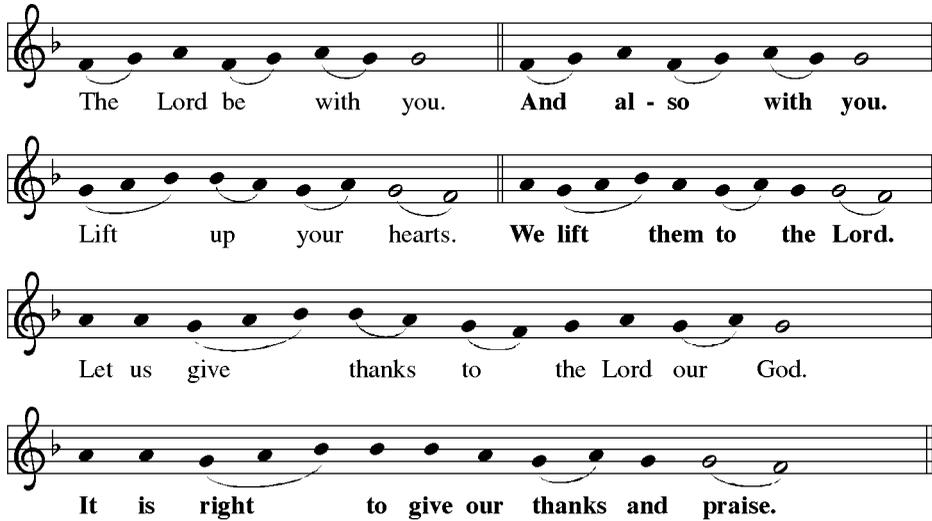
all; u - nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble
with your pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray.

C: Savior of the nations, come. Make your home here in us. Feed us with your love, that our faith shine ever new and our lives reveal your light. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

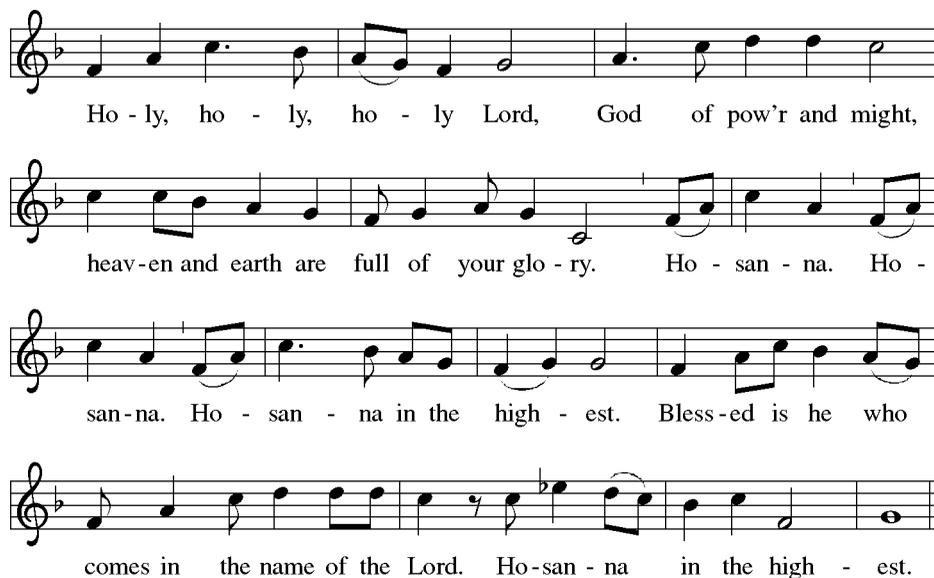


The Lord be with you. **And al - so with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end ... *Do this for the remembrance of me.*

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

C: Come, Lord Jesus.

P: Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

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.

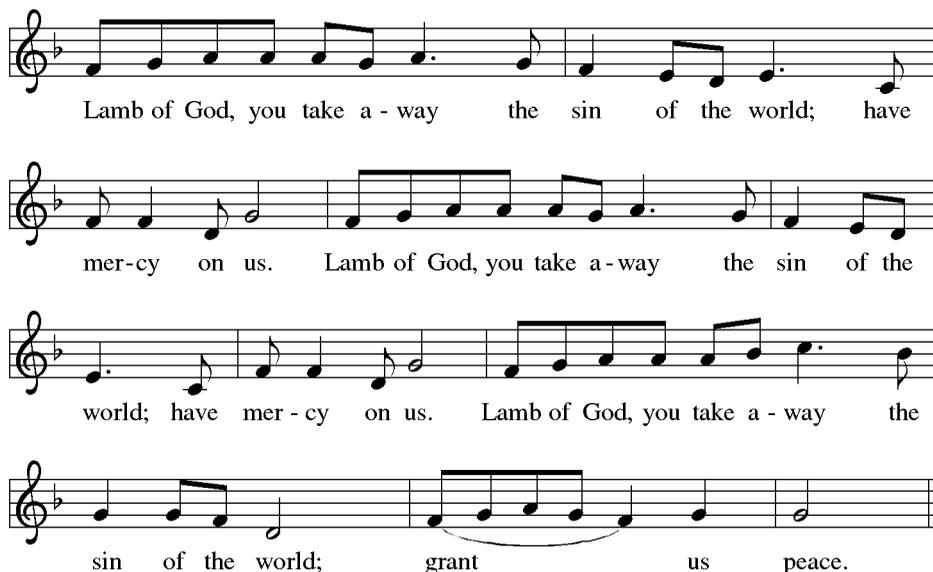
Invitation to Communion

P: Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you. Share in the feast.

C: Thanks be to God.

[Sit]

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Distribution of Holy Communion

We invite all baptized Christians to the Lord's Table to celebrate the real presence of Christ in the Sacrament. Communion is by intinction. You will receive a wafer. Dip it in the chalice of wine before consuming. You may then return to your seat or come to the altar rail for prayer. Children and adults who aren't communing may come forward to receive a blessing. As a gesture of hospitality, we use dealcoholized wine

(less than .5% alcohol). In addition, we offer gluten-free wafers, available upon request – please ask at the time of communion.

(11:00) Anthem: "Sussex Carol" arr. Philip Ledger

*On Christmas night all Christians sing to hear the news the angels bring.
News of great joy, news of great mirth, news of our merciful King's birth.*

*When sin departs before His grace, then life and health come in its place.
Angels and men with joy may sing all for to see the new-born King.*

*All out of darkness we have light which made the angels sing this night:
"Glory to God and peace to men, now and for evermore, Amen!"*

Matins Choir; Georgia Clements, piano

(11:00) Hymn No. 815: I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

[Stand]

Post Communion Blessing and Prayer

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

A: Let us pray. God for whom we wait, you come to us in the broken bread and the cup we share. Make us ready always to welcome Christ into our hearts, and send us forth to be your people in the world, announcing your coming among us in Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

✠ Sending ✠

Blessing

P: May Christ, the Sun of righteousness, shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path. Almighty God Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn No. 240: Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah TIF IN VELDELE

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Resonet in Laudibus (*Sing for Joy*)

Hermann Schroeder

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worship leaders

Presiding Minister: The Rev. Dr. Jack M. Horner

Preacher: The Rev. Jennifer A. Crist

Assisting Minister: (8:30) Nancy Martin; (11:00) Ron Livingston

Lector: (8:30) H. L. Bishop; (11:00) Steve Chevarria

Communion Assistants: (8:30) John Powell, Kathy and Samantha Smeal; (11:00) Marcia Brown, Anne Greenlund, Martha Herold, Julie Stambaugh

Crucifer: (8:30) Katie Addams

Book Bearer: (8:30) Liam Tauriello; (11:00) Lizzy Balasundram

Soundboard: (8:30) Jim Kincaid; (11:00) Rob Hoyt

Greeters: (8:30) Rob Bertram (head greeter), Gretchen Brodie, William and Joan Walters; (11:00) Steve Kauffman (head greeter), George Preble, Scott and Karen Smith

Ushers: John Lingenfelter and Bruce Bigelow (head ushers), Frank Bertovich, Dorine Bollinger, John Brady, Joseph Dixon, Zach Dixon, David and Derrick Edmiston, Jesse and Jacqueline Fosselman, Jason and Karen Gavenda, Brad Hollinger, Bill Miller, Mike Schmehl, Brett Warren

Altar Care: Michele Addams, Lana Glaser, Barbara Kriebel, Phyllis Mowery, Amy Reed, Betsy Updegraff, Grace Wallet, Vicki Wilken

Carillonneur: Margaret Parker

Flower Delivery: Dave and Michele Addams

Garden of Eatin': (GOE I) Bill and Peggy Miller, Gretchen Brodie; (GOE II) Carole Peiffer, Mary Ellen Harner

Cover art/design: Trinity Staff



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LUTHERAN CHURCH

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monday-friday, 9am-4pm

gathering space receptionist hours:
sunday-thursday, 6pm-9pm

worship notes

Attendance at our worship services last week was 742. Copies of last week's sermons are available on the tables in Fellowship Hall, in the narthex, the tract rack in the Gathering Space, and on our website (www.trinitycamphill.org).

The Sanctuary Lamp Candle in the Chapel, the symbol of God's presence, is presented to the glory of God and in loving memory of Marjorie A. Clayton and Marjorie C. Katzman all year long by Mr. Ronald M. Katzman.

United and empowered to worship, connect, serve.