



CIRCLE OF LIGHT: WITNESS

**3rd Sunday of
Advent**

**Saturday Worship
5:30 pm
December 16, 2017**



trinity | camp hill

LUTHERAN CHURCH



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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 also available for you to wear—we would be delighted to greet you by name. When the service concludes, first-time guests are invited to go to the front desk in our Gathering Space—we have a welcome gift for you!

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: Pastor

L: Lector

C: Congregation

✝ Gathering ✝

We gather together to praise God and receive His love.

Welcome

(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.

Hymn No. 264: Prepare the Royal Highway

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 (ELW, pg. 184) *The congregation sings the refrain, and the leader sings the verses.*

Refrain

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-'ry day.

P: For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all; for this holy house, for all who worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **Refrain**

P: That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor; that we may live out truth and justice and grace, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **Refrain**

P: For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family;
for life and for love, for our work and our play,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **Refrain**

Refrain

Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.

Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.

P: For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word;
that you nourish our souls with your body and blood,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **Refrain**

Prayer of the Day

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 ✝

We listen to the story of God's mighty acts for the sake of His people.

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.

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.

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.

L: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Sermon: "Circle of Light: Witness"

Pastor Jennifer A. Crist

(Stand)

Hymn No. 243: Lost in the Night

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 the Church

A brief silence.

Each petition ends:

P: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

✠ Meal ✠

When we celebrate communion we remember that Jesus died for us and we experience His love and forgiveness. As we eat the bread and wine Christ is present with us.

Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

(Sit)

Announcements

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.

(Stand)

Presentation



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 now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
 Lord, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Offering Prayer

P: 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

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

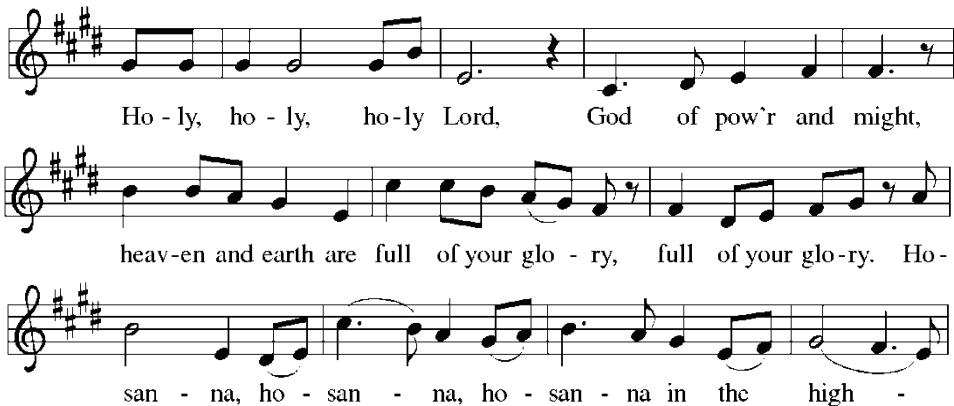
C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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

Sanctus



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

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

P: Holy God,

C: we long for your Spirit.

P: Come among us.

C: Bless this meal.

P: May your Word take flesh in us.

C: Awaken your people.

P: Fill us with your light.

C: Bring the gift of people on earth. 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.

Lord's Prayer

P: Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

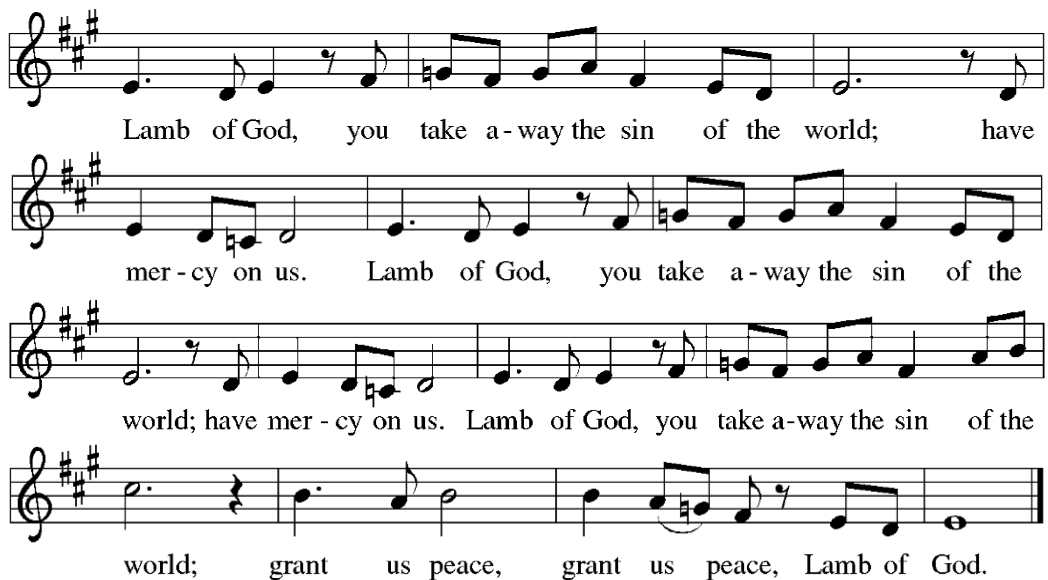
Invitation to Holy Communion

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, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Sharing our Lord's Supper

All baptized Christians are welcome to celebrate the real presence of Jesus Christ in our Lord's Supper. Please come forward by the middle aisle, receive the bread, dip it into the wine, and return by the side aisles. Communion may be received in bread only, if desired. Non-communing children and adults are invited to come forward for 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 the pastor at the time of communion.

(Stand)

Post-Communion Blessing

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

C: Amen.

Post-Communion Canticle



☞ Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -

one what God has done. Let all who seek the
 Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.
 Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and
 lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanks -
 giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Prayer

P: 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 ✠

We have heard the Word of God, offered our gifts, and been fed at the table. Now we are sent out, strengthened by the Holy Spirit to be God's people in the world.

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.

Dismissal

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

C: Thanks be to God.

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United and empowered to worship, connect, serve.

worship leaders

Presiding Minister and Preacher:
Musician:

The Rev. Jennifer A. Crist
Ryan Hannigan, piano

Lector/Communion Assistant:
Communion Assistant:
Cover art/design:

Andrea Reede
Angie Clark
Trinity Staff



worship notes

Attendance at our 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. Our web address is: www.trinitycamphill.org

The flowers in the Nave and Fellowship Hall, the communion elements for all services, and the sanctuary lamp candle, the symbol of God's abiding presence, are 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.