

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Buffalo, New York

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Buffalo, New York

Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 20, 2009

Holy Communion – 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

**VOLUNTARY**

Magnificat on the First Tone

Dietrich Buxtehude

*My Soul Doth Magnify the Lord* from the  
*Schuebler Chorales*

J.S. Bach

**SILENT PROCESSION OF CHOIR AND CLERGY (10:30)**

**THE ANTIPHON (10:30)**

*Lo, In the Time Appointed*

Healey Willan

Text from a Sarum Antiphon

Lo, in the time appointed the Lord will come; the mountains and the hills shall break forth into singing and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands: for the Lord God shall come into his everlasting kingdom: and upon the throne of David shall he reign forever. Alleluya.

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation,  
come to the help of your people,  
turning us from our sin to live for you alone.  
Give us the power of your Holy Spirit  
that we may confess our sin,  
receive your forgiveness,  
and grow into the fullness  
of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us.**

**We confess that we have turned from you  
and given ourselves into the power of sin.**

**We are truly sorry and humbly repent.**

**In your compassion forgive us our sins,**

**known and unknown,**

**things we have done**

**and things we have failed to do.**

**Turn us again to you,**

**and uphold us by your Spirit,**

**so that we may live and serve you in newness of life**

**through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy,

loved us even when we were dead in sin,

and made us alive together with Christ.

By grace you have been saved.

In the name of + Jesus Christ,

your sins are forgiven.

Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit,

that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**Amen.**

## **THE HYMN**

*Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying* “Wachet Auf”

ELW 436

## **GREETING**

From the one who was, who is,

and who is to come:

Grace and peace be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## A WORD FOR THE CHILDREN (10:30)

### ANTHEM AT THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

*Unto Us Is Born A Son*

Tune from *Piae Cantiones*, 1582

Arr. David Willcocks

Unto us is born a Son, King of quires supernal: See on earth his life begun, of lords the Lord eternal.

Christ, from heav'n descending low, comes on earth a stranger; Ox and ass their owner know, becradled in the manger.

This did Herod sore affray, and grievously bewilder, So he gave the word to slay, and slew the little childer.

Of his love and mercy mild this the Christmas story; And O that Mary's gentle Child might lead us up to glory!

O and A, and A and O, *cum cantibus in choro*, Let our merry organ go, *Benedicamus Domino!*

HTLC Youth Choir

## FIRST READING: Micah 5:2-5a

<sup>2</sup>But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me

one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.

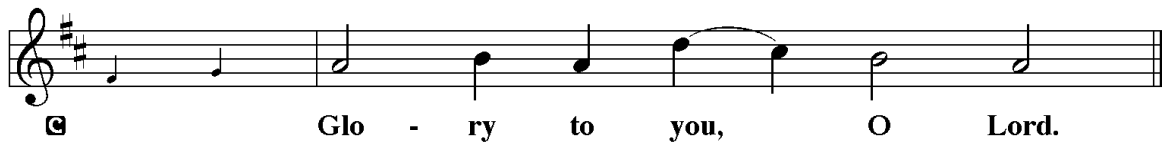
<sup>3</sup>Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel.

<sup>4</sup>And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth;

<sup>5</sup>and he shall be the one of peace.





*We are presented with Elizabeth, John's mother, and Mary, the mother of Jesus, two women filled with the Holy Spirit and with faith. In Elizabeth's inspired greeting and Mary's song of praise we hear of a saving God who remembers, scatters, lifts up, and fulfills all things.*

<sup>39</sup>In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, <sup>40</sup>where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup>When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit <sup>42</sup>and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. <sup>43</sup>And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? <sup>44</sup>For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup>And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

<sup>46</sup>And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord,

<sup>47</sup>and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

<sup>48</sup>for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

<sup>49</sup>for the Mighty One has done great things for me,

and holy is his name. <sup>50</sup>His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. <sup>51</sup>He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

<sup>52</sup>He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,

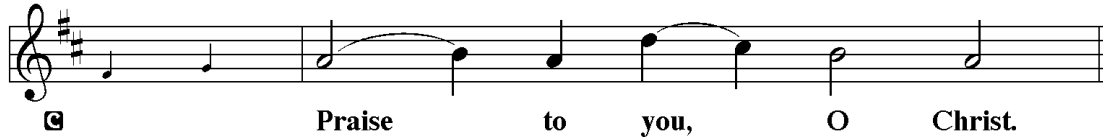
and lifted up the lowly; <sup>53</sup>he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.

<sup>54</sup>He has helped his servant Israel,

in remembrance of his mercy,

<sup>55</sup>according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

The gospel of the Lord.



## SERMON

The Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness* “Kingsfold”

ELW 251

## 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**

Waiting and watching for our sure and certain hope, let us pray for the world redeemed, the church reformed, and for all people restored in the coming one.

*A brief silence.*

O Wisdom from on high, you come and dwell among us, granting strength and sustenance for all. Feed the flock of your whole creation, that the ends of the earth may rejoice in your abundant supply. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Key of David, you unlock your gates of glory and splendor, and even the trees of the field clap their hands and the mountains and hills ring out their joy. Strengthen our commitment to care for your whole creation, that it may continue to sing your praises. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord of might, you stir up your power and come, revealing yourself to us in lowliness and service. Inspire all who serve your church as bishops, pastors, associates in ministry, deaconesses, and diaconal ministers, that they may serve faithfully. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**



O Branch of Jesse, your arms reach out with healing and wholeness. Grant this healing to all nations, that violence and destruction would give way to peace and harmony among all peoples of the earth. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Dayspring from on high, your presence spills over like a fountain, bringing light for all in any darkness. Comfort those for whom the burden of anxiety and depression is heavy, that they may see your light and know your love. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Emmanuel, you are with us, offering comfort for our sorrows and healing for our souls. We bless you for our beloved dead who are now at rest in you (*especially Katharina von Bora Luther, renewer of the church, whom we commemorate this day*). Keep us one with them in the blessed hope of the resurrection. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Alert and on guard for the coming of the Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting all things to your never-failing love in Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **THE OFFERING**

### **ANTHEM AT THE OFFERING (8:30)**

*Infant Redeemer*

McNeil Robinson

Infant Redeemer, holy mother; smile on these creatures watching here by your side.  
 Infant Redeemer, holy mother; shepherds and wise men pray with you to abide.  
 Oxen by the manger shield you from icy wind; the sparrows in the rafters call your name Jesus. Infant Redeemer; holy mother; smile on us now and in the hour of trial.  
 Now and forever we will adore you. Amen.

Holy Trinity Chapel Choir

**ANTHEM AT THE OFFERING (10:30)**

*The Magnificat* from the  
*Evening Service in G*

Charles V. Stanford

"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever." Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Aurora DePaul, soprano

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray together...

**God of mercy and grace,  
the eyes of all wait upon you,  
and you open your hand in blessing.  
From all that you have given us, receive these gifts,  
signs of our thanksgiving and praise.  
Fill us with good things at your table  
that we may come to the help of all in need;  
through Jesus Christ, our redeemer.  
Amen.**

**OFFERTORY**

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

ELW 885

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise God above, ye heav'nly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

## DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

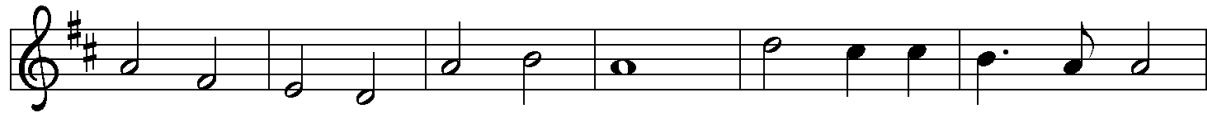
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

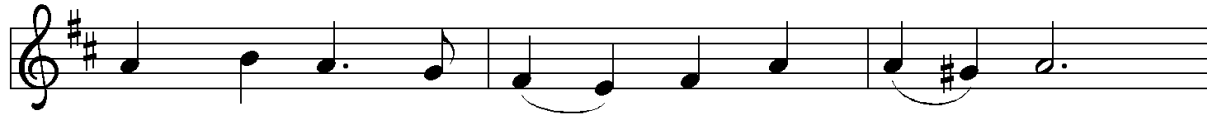
## PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; you comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes again to judge the world in righteousness. And so with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS



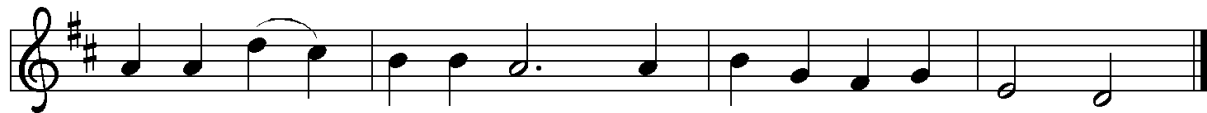
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



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.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,  
the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

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.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

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

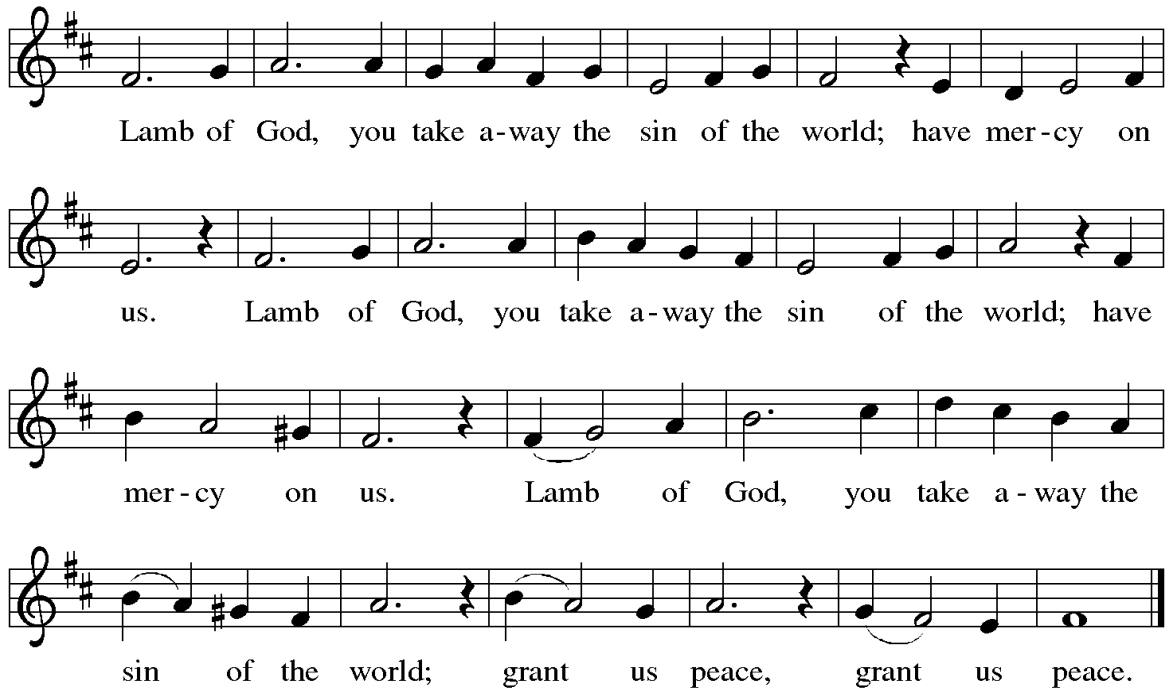
## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

## AGNUS DEI



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.

## THE COMMUNION

### SOLO AT COMMUNION (8:30)

#### *As the Bridegroom To His Chosen*

John Rutter

As the bridegroom to his chosen, as the king unto his realm, as the keeper to the castle, as the pilot to the helm, as the captain to his soldiers, as the shepherd to the lambs, so Lord, art thou to me.

As the fountain in the garden, as the candle in the dark, as the treasure in the coffer, as the manna in the ark, as the firelight in the winter, as the sunlight in the spring, so Lord, art thou to me.

As the music at the banquet, as the stamp unto the seal, as refreshment to the fainting, as the winecup at the meal, as the singing on the feast day, as the amen to the prayer, so, Lord, art thou to me.

As the ruby in the setting, as the honey in the comb, as the light within the lantern, as the father in the home, as the eagle in the mountains, as the sparrow in the nest, so art thou, Lord, to me.

As the sunshine in the heavens, as the image in the glass, as the fruit unto the fig tree, as the dew unto the grass, as the rainbow on the hilltop as the river in the plain, so art thou, Lord, to me.

Tim Flynn, bass  
Holy Trinity Chapel Choir

**COMMUNION MOTETS (10:30)***O Beatum et Sacrosanctum Diem*

Peter Philips

O blessed and most holy day on which Our Lord deigned to be born of the Virgin Mary for our sake. Let the whole world therefore rejoice; and let us sing to Him to the sound of the trumpet, strings, the harp and the organ. Let us rejoice with the numerous hosts of angels ceaselessly singing His praise. Nowell, Alleluia.

*Lux Aurumque*

Eric Whitacre

Light, warm and heavy as pure gold and the angels sing softly to the newborn baby.  
Colleen Flynn, soprano

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER****BLESSING**

The God of hope strengthen your hearts  
as you await the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ  
with all the saints.

Almighty God,  
Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

**RECESSIONAL HYMN***Joy to the World* “Antioch”

ELW 267

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Communion Statement*

All are welcome to share in the sacrament of Holy Communion at Holy Trinity. Non-communing adults and children are invited to come forward to receive a blessing. The Pastors will bring the sacrament to persons in the pews that are unable to come forward. Please advise an usher if you wish the pastor to do so. For those who are allergic to wheat, you may receive gluten-free wafers from the Pastor.

**PLEASE, TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES AND PAGERS  
DURING WORSHIP. THANK YOU.**

<i><b>HOLY TRINITY LEADERSHIP</b></i>
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**Congregational Council**

Paul Bauchle, President   Barbara Wozniak, Vice President  
 Shirley Lawrence, Secretary   Gretchen Hansen, Treasurer

Janice Bauchle, David Brace, Susan Bundt,  
 Gail Camilleri, Daniel Culross, Paul Hoebel,  
 Guy Huber, Thomas Johnson, Ken Kellner,  
 Karen Koehler, John Knipler, Ellie Monday,  
 Paul Nikischer, Tom Prohaska, Phillip Schlueter,  
 Sue Spindler, Karen Stoelzle, Gary Thomas

**Staff Contacts for Programs and Services**

James Bigham, Organist-Choirmaster  
 Charles Rojek, Pastoral Assistant  
 Pat Mohr, Parish Nurse (Home phone - 684-9165)  
 Jeremiah Smith, Youth Ministry  
 Linda Lipczynski, Parish Secretary  
 Carol Littlefield, Parish Accountant  
 John Busch, Director of Buildings and Grounds  
 Patrick Ryan, Steward of Buildings and Grounds  
 Phillip Schlueter, Curator of the Organs  
 Justin Pomietlarz, Youth Choir Director

The Rev. Dr. Charles D. Bang  
 The Rev. John A. Buerk  
 The Rev. Eric Olaf Olsen



<b>THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY</b>
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**SUNDAY, December 20, 2009 – Fourth Sunday in Advent**

- 8:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion w/chapel choir (CH)
- 9:30 a.m. Adult Education (FR)
- 10:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion w/youth choir (MC)
- 10:30 a.m. Sunday School (SS)/ Crib Room/Nursery (CI)
- 11:45 a.m. Coffee Hour (FI)
- 11:45 a.m. Chancel Choir (MR)

**TUESDAY, December 22, 2009**

- 4:30 p.m. Instrumental Rehearsal (MC)
- 5:00 p.m. Lectio Divina (CH)
- 6:00 p.m. AA Christmas Party (RH)
- 6:30 p.m. Worship Assistant Christmas rehearsal
- 6:45 p.m. Chancel Choir dress rehearsal (MR)
- 7:00 p.m. Advent Program (FR)
- 7:30 p.m. Yoga (SS)

**WEDNESDAY, December 23, 2009**

- 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting (CR)
- 12:00 Noon Trinity Lunch Bunch

**THURSDAY, December 24, 2009**

- 12:00 Noon Estonian Service (CH)
- 5:00 p.m. Christmas Pageant
- 9:00 p.m. Candlelight Christmas Service at Parkside
- 9:45 p.m. Pre-service music with choir and brass (MC)
- 10:30 p.m. Festival Candlelight Service of Holy Communion (MC)

**FRIDAY, December 25, 2009***Merry Christmas*

- 10:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion at Parkside

**SUNDAY, December 27, 2009 – St. John, Apostle and Evangelist***Happy Birthday Pastor Buerk*

- 8:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion (CH)
- 10:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion w/chapel choir and baptism
- 10:30 a.m. Crib Room/Nursery (CI)
- 11:45 a.m. Coffee Hour (FI)

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CH = Mansperger Chapel  
 FR = Fellowship Room  
 MR = Music Room  
 SC = Sacristy

CI = Crib Room  
 FI = Fireside Room/Library  
 PS = Pastor's Study  
 SS = Sunday School

CR = Conference Room  
 MC = Main Church  
 RH = Redeemer Hall  
 YR = Youth Room

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The church office will be closed on Friday, December 25.

Adult Education: Today Roy Clare will present a Christmas music program. The Adult Education program will take a two-week break for the holidays, but will resume for the new year on January 10 with developer Rocco Termini, who has completed several successful downtown projects and has recently announced plans for the former AMA's flagship store on Main Street as well as the Lafayette Hotel.

The next yoga class for beginners will be held this Tuesday, December 22 at the church from 7:30 - 8:45 p.m. Yoga will then break for three weeks and will resume on Tuesday, January 19. An offering of \$5 is suggested. Please see Uli MacDonald for more information.

From the Social Ministries Committee... The gifts from the Angel Tree should be returned today along with the ornament and placed under the tree. Thank you to all who participated, it is truly appreciated by all the children.

The Social Ministries Committee will have hand-made crafts from the African Team Ministries for sale after both the 8:30 and 10:30 today. Proceeds will be used to fill urgent needs of the residents of East Africa. Included will be care for orphans, drip irrigation systems for families, and jobs for unemployed women who make the crafts. Please feel free to browse after the coffee hour.

The confirmation class will be getting together on Monday, December 28 from 1:00 – 3:00 pm at Rotary Rink downtown at Fountain Plaza. Skating is free if you have your own skates or rent skates for \$2-3. Hot chocolate and cookies will be provided.

Searching for the perfect gift idea? Look no further than ELCA Good Gifts. Not only will you provide a unique gift, you provide support for the mission and ministry of the church. Catalogs (blue) are in the narthex area or go online to [www.elca.org/goodgifts](http://www.elca.org/goodgifts).

“Worship to go” are looking for volunteers to join them once a month to local health care facilities on Sunday afternoons. They are in need of musicians and those who would like to help with the service. The first Sunday of the month they go to Tonawanda Manor at 2:00 p.m. The second Sunday of the month they are at Wedgewood at 2:30 p.m. and the fourth Sunday of the month they are at Winwood on Delaware at 2:00 p.m. Please call Sister Donna if you are able to help.

The Lenten Booklet will be coming up fast. The plan this year is to submit in writing, a family occasion that you can recall as particularly spiritually moving and a recipe from your family. We will canvas the Sunday School children, the Confirmation Class and the entire adult congregation. Drawings will also be acceptable if you have one to share. Please submit your entries via email to [gcamilleri@kenton.k12.ny.us](mailto:gcamilleri@kenton.k12.ny.us) or written and handed in the offering plate. We will be accepting your entries until February 15th. Please call Gail Camilleri at 695-8764 if you should have a question.

Greetings from Trinity, Well... thus ends our first semester and what an exciting and challenging semester it was. I have learned so much and there is so much more to learn about being a part of God's mission for the church. Thanks be to God for such a wonderful opportunity to read and hear God's word and grow in the faith. Thanks be to God for the time dedicated to the study of God's love and practice the ways of bringing the Good News to God's people. Thanks be to God for the Holy Spirit working through all of you to lift me up in this ministry, as you support and pray for Tricia and me during this time of growth and study. May you have Christ's love in your hearts as you celebrate his birth and may you keep his love with you through the New Year.

Merry Christmas. *Roger*

## ADVENT SCHEDULE

The final Tuesday Advent program will be December 22 beginning at 7:00 p.m. and concluding at 8:30 p.m. Please feel free to join us for dessert, coffee and conversation on the book of faith "Advent Reflections".

### CHRISTMAS EVE

5:00 p.m. Church Family service at Holy Trinity

9:00 p.m. Candlelight Christmas Communion service at Parkside

9:45 p.m. Preservice music at Holy Trinity with full choir and instruments

10:30 p.m. Festival candlelight service of Holy Communion at Holy Trinity

### CHRISTMAS DAY

10:30 a.m. Christmas service at Parkside

At 8:30 a.m. the acolyte is Patrick Ishimwe. The lay reader is Heidemarie Kunz. Communion assistant is Sue Fayle. Ushers are Dave and Patricia Ulrich.

At 10:30 a.m. the lay reader is Clyde Terry. Greeters are Ruth Schmidt and Roy and Jean Clare. Ushers are James Dunnigan (captain), Ryon Fleming, Herbert Hough, Charmaine Kaltrider, Kurt and Mary Kaufmann, Chuck Rojek, Betty Senf and Clyde Terry. Communion Assistants are James Dunnigan, John Knipler, Sara Pellnat and Barrett Lloyd. Worship assistants are Sara Pellnat and Barrett Lloyd, crucifers; Franz Ross, Lindsay Wright, Chris Huber, Marissa Pellnat and Timothy Bradley.

**HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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