

# TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

Third Sunday in Advent  
December 14, 2025

*The Mission of Trinity Lutheran Church is the preaching, teaching, baptizing and sharing the love of Christ in our church, our community and our world.*



## **Welcome to Trinity!**

We are so happy that you have joined us for worship this morning. We are a community of believers in Jesus Christ who seek to love God with all of our heart, with all of our mind, and with all of our soul. We have a deep desire that all would come to the saving knowledge of the truth of Jesus as Lord! We cordially invite you to worship with us every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. and join us for Bible Class and Sunday School after church.

## Pre-Service Music

### Prelude – Ringing of the Bells – Greeting

*Please Stand*

### Confession and Absolution

L: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

L: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C: 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 on God's Word and for self-examination.*

L: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.**

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. So, then, in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

### Opening Hymn

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

LSB 357 sts. 1, ref, 2–3, 6

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear. Refrain

ref Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

2 O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,  
Who ord'rest all things mightily;  
To us the path of knowledge show,  
And teach us in her ways to go. Refrain

3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,  
Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height  
In ancient times didst give the Law  
In cloud and majesty and awe. Refrain

6 O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,  
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
And death's dark shadows put to flight. Refrain

Text: Latin, c. 12th cent.; Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum, 1710, Köln; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt. Text: Public domain

## Introit

L: Rejoice in the Lord always;

**C: again I will say, Rejoice.**

L: I will hope continually

**C: and will praise you yet more and more.**

L: My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of salvation all the day,

**C: for their number is past my knowledge.**

L: With the mighty deeds of the Lord GOD I will come;

**C: I will remind them of your righteousness, yours alone.**

L: O God, from my youth you have taught me,

**C: and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds.**

L: So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me,

**C: until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all those to come.**

**ALL: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

L: Rejoice in the Lord always;

**C: again I will say, Rejoice.**

## Kyrie

L: In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

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



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

L: 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.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

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



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

L: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord



## Salutation and Collect of the Day

L: The Lord be with you.



L: Let us pray... Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



*Please Sit*

## Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 35:1–10

<sup>1</sup>The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; <sup>2</sup>it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. <sup>3</sup>Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. <sup>4</sup>Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you." <sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; <sup>6</sup>then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; <sup>7</sup>the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. <sup>8</sup>And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Way of Holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it. It shall belong to those who walk on the way; even if they are fools, they shall not go astray. <sup>9</sup>No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. <sup>10</sup>And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Gradual

L: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.

**C: Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.**

L: Behold, your king is coming to you;

**C: righteous and having salvation.**

L: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

**C: From the house of the Lord we bless you.**

Children's Message and Mighty Mites

Bruce Sletten

Epistle Reading

James 5:7-11

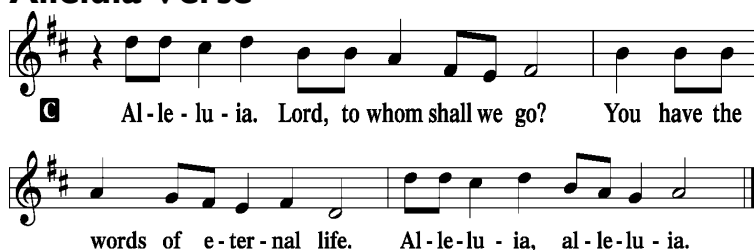
<sup>7</sup>Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. <sup>8</sup>You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. <sup>9</sup>Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. <sup>10</sup>As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. <sup>11</sup>Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

*Please Stand*

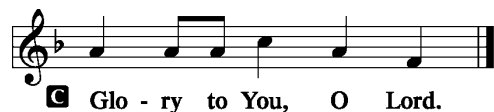
Alleluia Verse



Holy Gospel

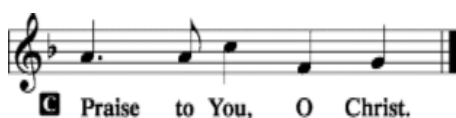
Matthew 11:2-15

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.



<sup>2</sup>When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples <sup>3</sup>and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” <sup>4</sup>And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup>the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. <sup>6</sup>And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.” <sup>7</sup>As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>8</sup>What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. <sup>9</sup>What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup>This is he of whom it is written, “Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.’ <sup>11</sup>Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. <sup>12</sup>From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. <sup>13</sup>For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, <sup>14</sup>and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. <sup>15</sup>He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord.



## Hymn of the Day

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

LSB 338

1 Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,  
Born to set Thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us;  
Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation,  
Hope of all the earth Thou art,  
Dear desire of ev'ry nation,  
Joy of ev'ry longing heart.

2 Born Thy people to deliver;  
Born a child and yet a king!  
Born to reign in us forever,  
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal Spirit  
Rule in all our hearts alone;  
By Thine all-sufficient merit  
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt. Text: Public domain

## Sermon

Please Stand

### Apostles' Creed

**C:** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life  $\text{✝}$  everlasting. Amen.

### Offering and Offertory



**C** Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it



from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

## Prayer of the Church

### Preface

P: The Lord be with you.



And al - so with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.



We lift them to the Lord.

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




It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

### Proper Preface

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

### Sanctus



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.

## 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.

## Communion Confession

*I Cor.10:17\* Acts 2:42\*\* I Cor. 11:23-32\*\*\**

*As a member of the LCMS, Trinity practices closed communion. If you are not a member of Trinity Church and desire communion please speak to Pastor or one of our Elders prior to the service. Individuals are welcome to come forward for a blessing with their arms crossed over their chest*

**P:** The Lord's Supper is God's gift for Christians who are properly taught. In communing, we want people to receive Christ's body and blood for their good. This means that as you come to the Lord's Table you affirm that Jesus is your Savior and Lord; and with Lutheran Christians (LCMS), you confess:

**C:** I recognize and confess that I am a sinner. I repent of my sin and ask God's forgiveness. I believe that Jesus Christ is my only Lord and Savior from sin, Satan and death. I believe that the risen Christ is really present in the Sacrament, and under the form of the bread and wine, I receive His true body and blood for the forgiveness of my sin and the strengthening of my faith and life.

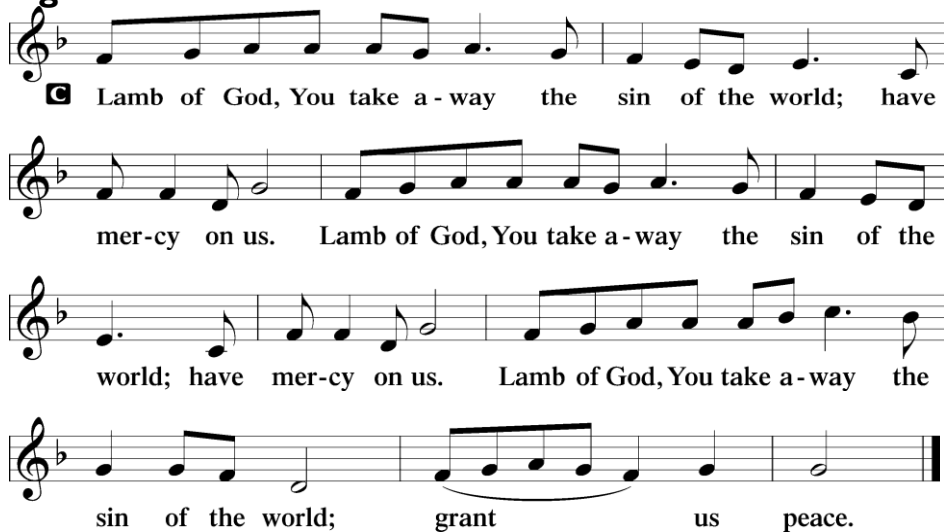
## The Words of our Lord

### Pax Domini

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



### Agnus Dei



*Please Sit*



## **Distribution and Distribution Hymns**

### ***Hark the Glad Sound***

LSB 349

- 1 Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes,  
The Savior promised long;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne  
And ev'ry voice a song.
- 2 He comes the pris'ners to release,  
In Satan's bondage held.  
The gates of brass before Him burst,  
The iron fetters yield.
- 3 He comes the broken heart to bind,  
The bleeding soul to cure,  
And with the treasures of His grace  
To\_enrich the humble poor.
- 4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,  
Thy welcome shall proclaim,  
And heav'n's eternal arches ring  
With Thy beloved name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–51 Text: Public domain

### ***O Lord, We Praise Thee***

LSB 617

- 1 O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and adore Thee,  
In thanksgiving bow before Thee.  
Thou with Thy body and Thy blood didst nourish  
Our weak souls that they may flourish:  
O Lord, have mercy!  
May Thy body, Lord, born of Mary,  
That our sins and sorrows did carry,  
And Thy blood for us plead  
In all trial, fear, and need:  
O Lord, have mercy!
- 2 Thy holy body into death was given,  
Life to win for us in heaven.  
No greater love than this to Thee could bind us;  
May this feast thereof remind us!  
O Lord, have mercy!  
Lord, Thy kindness did so constrain Thee  
That Thy blood should bless and sustain me.  
All our debt Thou hast paid;  
Peace with God once more is made:  
O Lord, have mercy!

3 May God bestow on us His grace and favor  
That we follow Christ our Savior  
And live together here in love and union  
Nor despise this blest Communion!

O Lord, have mercy!

Let not Thy good Spirit forsake us;  
Grant that heav'nly-minded He make us;  
Give Thy Church, Lord, to see  
Days of peace and unity:

O Lord, have mercy!

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; (st. 1): German, 14th cent.; (sts. 2–3): Martin Luther, 1483–1546  
Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003347

### ***Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord***

LSB 637

1 Draw near and take the body of the Lord,  
And drink the holy blood for you outpoured;  
Offered was He for greatest and for least,  
Himself the victim and Himself the priest.

2 He who His saints in this world rules and shields,  
To all believers life eternal yields;  
With heav'nly bread He makes the hungry whole,  
Gives living waters to the thirsting soul.

3 Come forward then with faithful hearts sincere,  
And take the pledges of salvation here.  
O Lord, our hearts with grateful thanks endow  
As in this feast of love You bless us now.

Text: Latin, 7th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt. Text: Public domain

### ***O Living Bread from Heaven***

LSB 642

1 O living Bread from heaven,  
How well You feed your guest!  
The gifts that You have given  
Have filled my heart with rest.  
Oh, wondrous food of blessing,  
Oh, cup that heals our woes!  
My heart, this gift possessing,  
With praises overflows.

2 My Lord, You here have led me  
To this most holy place  
And with Yourself have fed me  
The treasures of Your grace;  
For You have freely given  
What earth could never buy,  
The bread of life from heaven,  
That now I shall not die.

3 You gave me all I wanted;  
 This food can death destroy.  
 And You have freely granted  
 The cup of endless joy.  
 My Lord, I do not merit  
 The favor You have shown,  
 And all my soul and spirit  
 Bow down before Your throne.

4 Lord, grant me then, thus strengthened  
 With heav'nly food, while here  
 My course on earth is lengthened,  
 To serve with holy fear.  
 And when You call my spirit  
 To leave this world below,  
 I enter, through Your merit,  
 Where joys unmingled flow.

Text: Johann Rist, 1607–67; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Text: Public domain

*Please Stand*

## Post Communion Blessing

### Post Communion Canticle

*Thank the Lord*



☐ Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

## Post-Communion Collect

P: Let us pray.

**C: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**



☐ A - men.

## Benediction

P: 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.



☐ A - men.

## Closing Hymn

*What Child Is This*

LSB 370

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest,  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?

Whom angels greet with anthems sweet  
While shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the king,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The babe, the son of Mary!

2 Why lies He in such mean estate  
Where ox and ass are feeding?

Good Christian, fear; for sinners here  
The silent Word is pleading.

Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,  
The cross be borne for me, for you;  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,  
The babe, the son of Mary!

3 So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
Come, peasant, king, to own Him.

The King of kings salvation brings;  
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

Raise, raise the song on high,  
The virgin sings her lullaby;  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,  
The babe, the son of Mary!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–98 Text: Public domain

## Announcements

### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2025 Concordia Publishing House

## COMMUNION CONFESSIONS SCRIPTURES

\*“ Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.”

\*\*“And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.”

\*\*\*“ For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, <sup>24</sup>and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” <sup>25</sup>In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” <sup>26</sup> For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. <sup>27</sup>Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. <sup>28</sup>Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. <sup>29</sup>For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. <sup>30</sup>That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died.<sup>31</sup> But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged. <sup>32</sup> But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world.

### Assisting in Today's Service

<b>Preacher:</b>	Pastor Jake Sletten
<b>Liturgist:</b>	Bruce Sletten, Lay Minister
<b>Elder:</b>	Luke Hansen
<b>Assisting Elder:</b>	Parker Schoen
<b>Acolyte:</b>	Jackson Broderick & Alice Moore
<b>Sound System:</b>	Marcus Schoen
<b>Broadcaster:</b>	Parker Schoen
<b>Organist:</b>	Courtney Sletten
<b>Pre-Service Music:</b>	Courtney Sletten
<b>Communion Set-up:</b>	Walt & Cheryl Brown
<b>Communion Wash:</b>	Jennifer & Bridget Meier

## **THOSE TO REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS**

**Health-** Joan Haines, Emma Conklin, RoseMarie Dieckhoff, Dana Robb, Delphine Lehde Mullan, John Fritz, Kathleen Mueller, Erin Hunt, Jim Bracht, Alyssa Parrigon, Tess Holle, Dick Highfill, David Tunnell, Karen Schmedeke, Don Schmedeke, Karen Miller, Baby Reed Fuemmeler, Lois Gaddy, Robbie Krueger, Grace Doss, Bob Bremer, Joe Garoutte, Stephen Schoen, Debbie Schoen, Orville Meyer, David Holle

**Birthday's–** Orville Meyer is celebrating 91 years of life on December 17.

Janice Koenemann is celebrating 81 years of life on December 19.

**Remembering our Seasoned Saints (80+ years old)-** Sharon Curtit, Grace Doss, James Gaddy, Marjorie Harris, Linda Jelinek, Judy Lehde, Loretta Pennington, Karen Schmedeke, Blake Stanford

**Families of the Week-** Kristi Easter family, Matt Ehrhardt, Jennifer Elbert family, Dyan Emery family, Layna Essary family, Logan Evans, Ed Evatt family, Ben Ferrand, Brandi Ferrand family, Barb Flattem, Matt Flattem family, Harmony Fritz family, John Fritz family, Vickey Fritz, Wayne Fritz

**Radio Broadcast-** for today is sponsored by Doris, Bryanna and Michele and their families in honor of the 91st birthday today for Orville Meyer in thankfulness to God for the many blessings we all have received over the years.

**Self Service Nursery** is available in the chapel for families with children. Toys and Supplies are in the cabinet. Ask an usher for assistance.

**Hearing assistance** receivers are available. Please ask an usher.

**Lap Robes** are in the black cabinet in the narthex and bell tower. Please ask an Usher or Elder for assistance if needed.

**For Altar Flowers-** contact the Church Office.