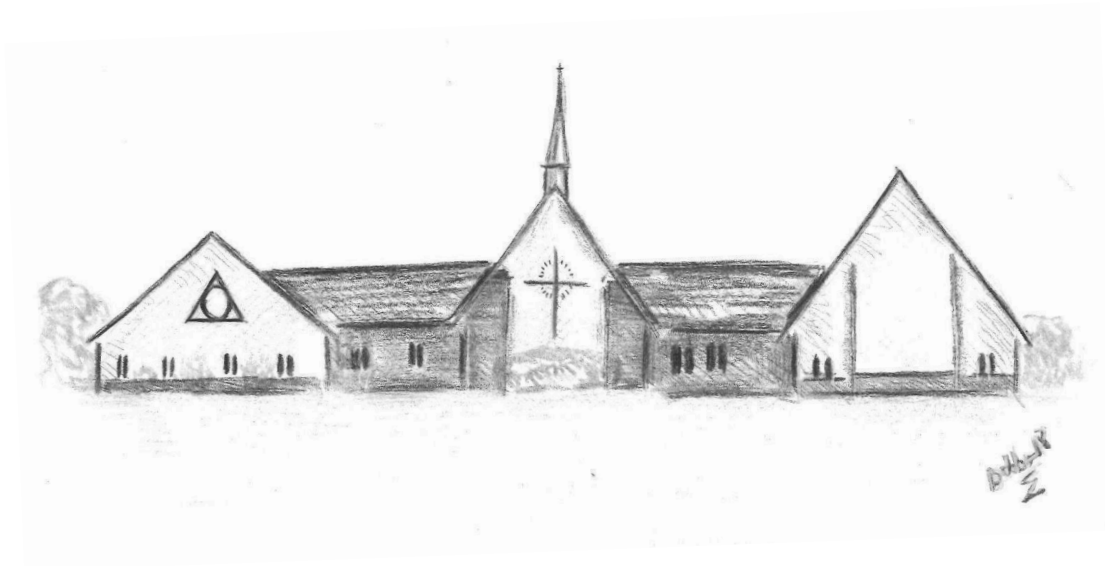


Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 21, 2025



OUR MISSION:

***To make disciples for Jesus Christ,
to baptize and to teach the faith,
that all may know the hope of Jesus Christ
and become responsible members of His church.***

Trinity Lutheran Church
1190 Valley Forge Rd PO BOX 340 Fairview Village, PA 19409
610-584-8411 www.trinityfairview.com

*Assistive technology for the hearing impaired is available.
Please see the operator in the sound booth.*

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Today Isaiah prophesies that a young woman will bear a son and name him Emmanuel. The gospel is Matthew's account of the annunciation and birth of the one named Emmanuel, God-with-us. During these final days of Advent we pray, "O come, O come, Emmanuel," a beloved hymn based on the O Antiphons, ancient prayers appointed for the seven days preceding Christmas. On this final Sunday of Advent we prepare to celebrate the birth of the one born to save us from the power of sin and death.

ALTAR FLOWER SPONSORSHIP

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God by Sally Jeffries.

PRELUDE MUSIC

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to all who are visiting today. Please complete a purple visitor's card which can be found on the clipboard in the pew chair in front of you, and place in the offering plate. May your hopes be restored, spirits lifted and your enthusiasm renewed when you visit here.

P Now, let our singing help us clear our hearts and minds for worship.

Advent Candle Lighting

Andrew Keenan



- L** Blessed are you, God of hosts, for you promised to send a son, Emmanuel, who brought your presence among us; and you promise through your Son Jesus to save us from our sin.
As we light these candles, turn again to us in mercy; strengthen our faith in the word spoken by your prophets; restore us and give us life, that we may be saved.
O house of David, come,
- C** **let us rejoice, for the Son of God, Emmanuel, comes to be with us. Amen.**

ELW 240 Verses 1-4

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
He shall feed the flock like a shep - herd, gent - ly lead them home - ward.
Lift your heads and lift high the gate - way for the King of glo - ry.
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954
Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune
Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

P Please rise.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,
whose home is heaven and earth,
whose salvation is sure.

C **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Long-expected God,

C **we confess that we look to ourselves
for the peace and security only you can provide.
We reach for swords and spears,
reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war.
We become impatient while waiting
and weary of keeping awake.
Free us from self-reliance,
and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors.
Increase our trust in God's timing,
and awaken us to your advent among us,
that we may abound in the hope you have promised.
Amen.**

P God judges us not as we deserve,
but according to God's own righteousness.

✙ You are freed and forgiven,
saved by grace,
and ready to welcome the Savior.

C **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG

ELW 265

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,
3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;
4 Of her, Em-man - u - el, the Christ, was born



with wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:
all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;
"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.
in Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,
thy son shall be Em-man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
"My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."
and Chris-tian folk through-out the world will ev - er say:



most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."
most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy,
"Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."

Text: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924
Music: GABRIEL'S MESSAGE, Basque carol

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P Let us pray.
- C **Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace
and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we
may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the
Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.**
- P Please be seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading: 7:10-16

An Israelite and Aramean military coalition presented a serious threat to King Ahaz of Judah. In response, Ahaz decided to secure his throne and kingdom by seeking Assyrian help. Isaiah reminds Ahaz that human attempts to establish security will fail. The prophet gives the sign that is the only source of true safety: Immanuel, God is with us!

¹⁰ The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹ “Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” ¹² But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” ¹³ Then Isaiah said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals that you weary my God also? ¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel. ¹⁵ He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶ For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.”

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

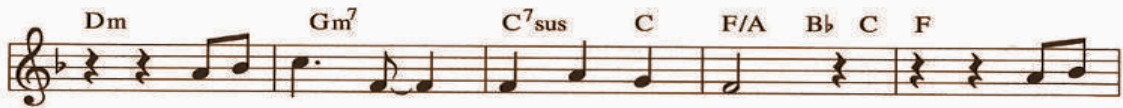
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

- L ¹ Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- C ² **In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and come to help us.**
- L ³ Restore us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
- C ⁴ **O LORD God of hosts,
how long will your anger fume when your people pray?**
- L ⁵ You have fed them with the bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- C ⁶ **You have made us the derision of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**
- L ⁷ Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
- C ¹⁷ **Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,
the one you have made so strong for yourself.**
- L ¹⁸ And so will we never turn away from you;
give us life, that we may call upon your name.
- C ¹⁹ **Restore us, O LORD God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.**
- P Please rise.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

7

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



GOSPEL: Matthew 1:18-25

P The holy gospel according to Matthew, the first chapter.

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

Matthew's story of Jesus' birth focuses on the role of Joseph, who adopts the divinely-begotten child into the family of David and obediently gives him the name Jesus, which means "God saves."

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³ "Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." ²⁴ When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife ²⁵ but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.

P The gospel of the Lord.

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

P Please be seated.

SERMON

The Reverend Karen Nelson, Pastor

P Please rise.

SERMON HYMN

ELW 251

My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness

1 My soul pro-claims your great-ness, Lord; I sing my Sav - ior's praise!
2 To all who live in ho - ly fear your mer - cy ev - er flows.
3 To Is - ra - el, your ser - vant blest, your help is ev - er sure;

You looked up - on my low - li - ness, and I am full of grace.
With might - y arm you dash the proud, their schem-ing hearts ex - pose.
the prom - ise to our par - ents made their chil - dren will se - cure.

Now ev - 'ry land and ev - 'ry age this bless-ing shall pro - claim—
The ruth-less you have cast a - side, the low - ly throned in - stead;
Sing glo - ry to the Ho - ly One, give hon - or to the Word,

great won - ders you have done for me, and ho - ly is your name.
the hun - gry filled with all good things, the rich sent off un - fed.
and praise the Pow'r of the Most High, one God, by all a - dored.

Text: *With One Voice*, 1995, based on the Magnificat
Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.
Outside USA: Arr. from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.
Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

APOSTLES' CREED

P Let us confess our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed.

C 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.
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.

P Please sit or kneel.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

L Let us pray.

In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

A brief silence.

L In the anticipation of these days, prepare our hearts for your arrival. Stir our spirits through the gifts of artists, musicians, poets, and preachers, as together we proclaim your advent among us. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

L The earth breaks forth in singing as it heralds the Messiah's coming. Fill our hearts with wonder as we join heaven and nature in announcing this holy birth. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

L You send your saving grace and peace to the nations. Lead us in work for justice and care for the common good. May we meet the Christ-child we seek in the faces of our neighbors. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

L When tears of grief, exhaustion, or loneliness come, or physical or emotional hurt overwhelms us, come to our aid. Uphold all who are anxious, who know the challenges of depression, or who are ill.

We especially pray for those who are unable to be with us today: Sandy, Dot, Nancy, Diane & Joan.

For those in need of God's healing love and strength: Susan, Georgia, Tommy, Karen, Tom, Lori, John, Kailyn, Sue, Edward, John, Bob, Leslie, Melissa, Elaine, Gene, Lucas, Peggy, Anna, Marita, Tilly, Heather, Margie, Ray, Rick, Steve, Mike, Frank, Jim & Sharon.

For those in need of God's guidance, protection and strength:
Mark, Meg & Adam

In gratitude for God's abundance.

For those who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

For those who serve and protect our nation: Jordan, Brian, Craig & Eve.

And for those who we hold in our hearts, and those whose needs are known only to you God.

God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

L Surround expectant parents and those suffering from infant loss with communities of support. Bless young children and new parents. Guide us in ways that provide safety for all children and those who care for them. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

L Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.

C Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

- P Please rise.
P The peace of Christ be with you always.
C **And also with you.**

While we sing, you may turn to those sitting closest to you to offer, and receive, the peace and reconciliation which is possible only through Christ.

Peace

Pe - ace to you! God's Pe - ace to you. I share Go - d's Peace with you - - -

5 Pe - ace to you! God's Pe - ace to you. I share Go - d's Peace with you!

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in 4/4 time, with a tempo marking of quarter note = 70. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The score consists of two staves. The first staff contains measures 1 through 8, and the second staff contains measures 5 through 9. Chord symbols are written above the notes: B-flat, E-flat, F7, B-flat, E-flat, F, B-flat, B-flat7 on the first staff; and B-flat, E-flat, F7, B-flat, Gm, Gm/E-flat, F, 1.B-flat, 2.E-flat B-flat on the second staff. The lyrics are written below the notes, with a repeat sign at the end of the second staff.

- P Please be seated.

OFFERTORY MEDITATION MUSIC

OFFERING

God has blessed us in so many ways. We offer our gifts as a demonstration of our gratitude. And we pray God will use these resources to help us address the needs of our neighbors.

Offering by online giving: Make a gift to the general fund at
<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YR6Z/home>



Bill pay option with your local bank or

By Mail:

Trinity Lutheran Church PO Box 340 Fairview Village, PA 19409

P Please rise.

OFFERING PRAYER

P Nourishing God,
you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert.
Through this meal, satisfy our parched places,
that we may rejoice and be for the world
signs of your kingdom come.

C **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,
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;
who by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
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

The musical score for the Sanctus is written for guitar and voice. It consists of three staves of music. The first staff begins with a tempo marking of quarter note = 65 and a common time signature. The key signature is one flat (F major/D minor). The lyrics for the first staff are: "Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord Go - d of po - wer and might. Hea - ven and earth are". The second staff begins with a measure rest of 6 measures. The lyrics for the second staff are: "full of your glo - ry Ho - sa - nna in the high - est! Bless - ed is He who comes". The third staff begins with a measure rest of 11 measures. The lyrics for the third staff are: "i - n the name of the Lor - d Ho - sa - nna in the high - est!". Chords are indicated above the notes: G, Am, F, Dm7, G, C, G, Am, Em, F, Am, G, C, G, Am, F, Em, F, G, C.

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord Go - d of po - wer and might. Hea - ven and earth are

6 full of your glo - ry Ho - sa - nna in the high - est! Bless - ed is He who comes

11 i - n the name of the Lor - d Ho - sa - nna in the high - est!

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P 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.

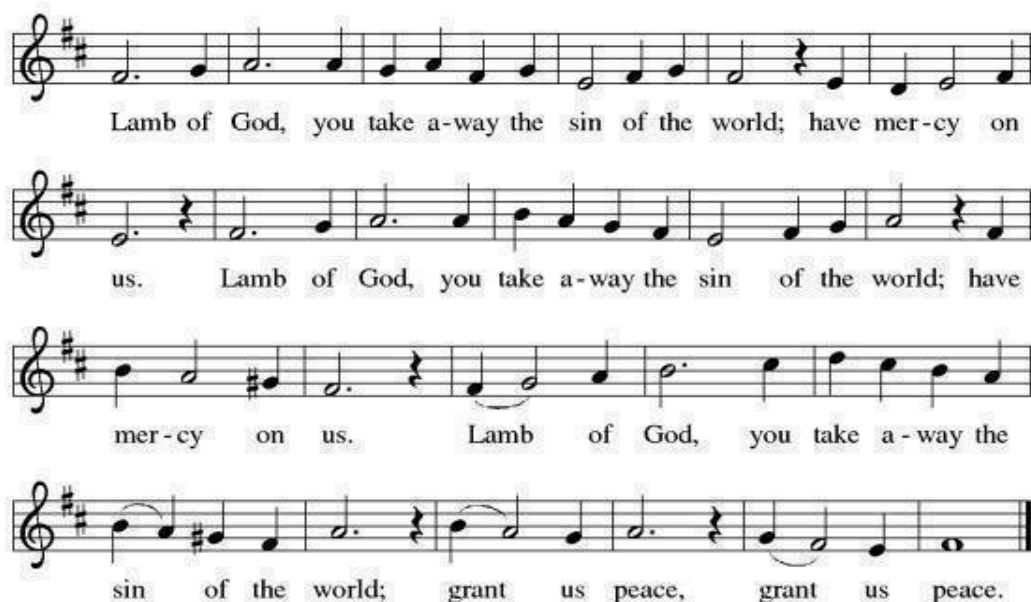
LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

P Please be seated until the invitation.

LAMB OF GOD



COMMUNION

P The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

C **Amen.**

To receive Holy Communion please come by the center aisle to the pastor to receive the bread (wafer) and then proceed to the communion assistant for intinction (dipping your wafer in the wine) and then eat, then return to your seat by the side aisle.

Non alcoholic wine is used at all services.

A gluten free wafer is available, simply tell the Pastor when you approach.

If you are not communing and desire a personal blessing please come to Pastor with your hands at your sides.

P Please rise.

COMMUNION BLESSING

P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you forever in his grace.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P God our host,
at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness.
Send us forth, eager to share the feast,
welcome the stranger,
and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus.

C **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord look upon you with his favor, and give you his peace.
In the name of the Father, ✠ and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

ELW 267

Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -

room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing,

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Keep awake.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Acknowledgments:

Terms of use: Liturgy from sundaysandseasons.com copyright © 2025 Augsburg Fortress.

Text: *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* © 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License. **Scripture:** New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License 006477.

For Parents and Grandparents

At Trinity, we love having children worship with us. And we know children need to fidget and squirm! We invite parents and grandparents to all that the Kid's Corner has to offer, located just off the sanctuary in the narthex. There are a wide selection of books on the tall stand, and plenty of crayons and coloring books in the basket. “Borrow Bags” are filled with items for fidgety children to use during worship. Return them to the stand following worship.

This week at Trinity

Christmas Eve: Join us for worship on Wednesday December 24 at 3 PM and 7 PM.



Serving Today 12/21	
Lector	Lynn Chialastri
Advent Candle Lighter	Andrew Keenan
Greeter	Emma Birkmire
Communion Assistants	Judy Flanigan & Ann Dungan
Ushers	Wilmer Cressman & Rick Cole
Coffee Hour	Ann Dungan & Anne Meibohm
Building Opener	Rick Cole
Altar Guild	Ann Dungan
Counting Team	JoAnn Sorom, Betty Kratz, Trish Graves
Lector	
Serving Sunday 12/28	
Lector	Lynn Chialastri, Michael Martorelli, Ann Dungan, Alma Nowmos, Judy Flanigan, Linda Stone
Greeter	Jenny Anderson
Ushers	Brenda Aslin & Ann Dungan
Coffee Hour	Meg Smith/Clean Up Needed
Building Opener	Karl Schafer
Counting Team	JoAnn Sorom, Betty Kratz, Trish Graves



Christmas Season at Trinity
All Services are In Person & Livestreamed



Christmas Eve
Worship Services

3:00 PM

6:30 PM Prelude Concert

7:00 PM



Lessons & Carols

Sunday, December 28th

10:00 AM