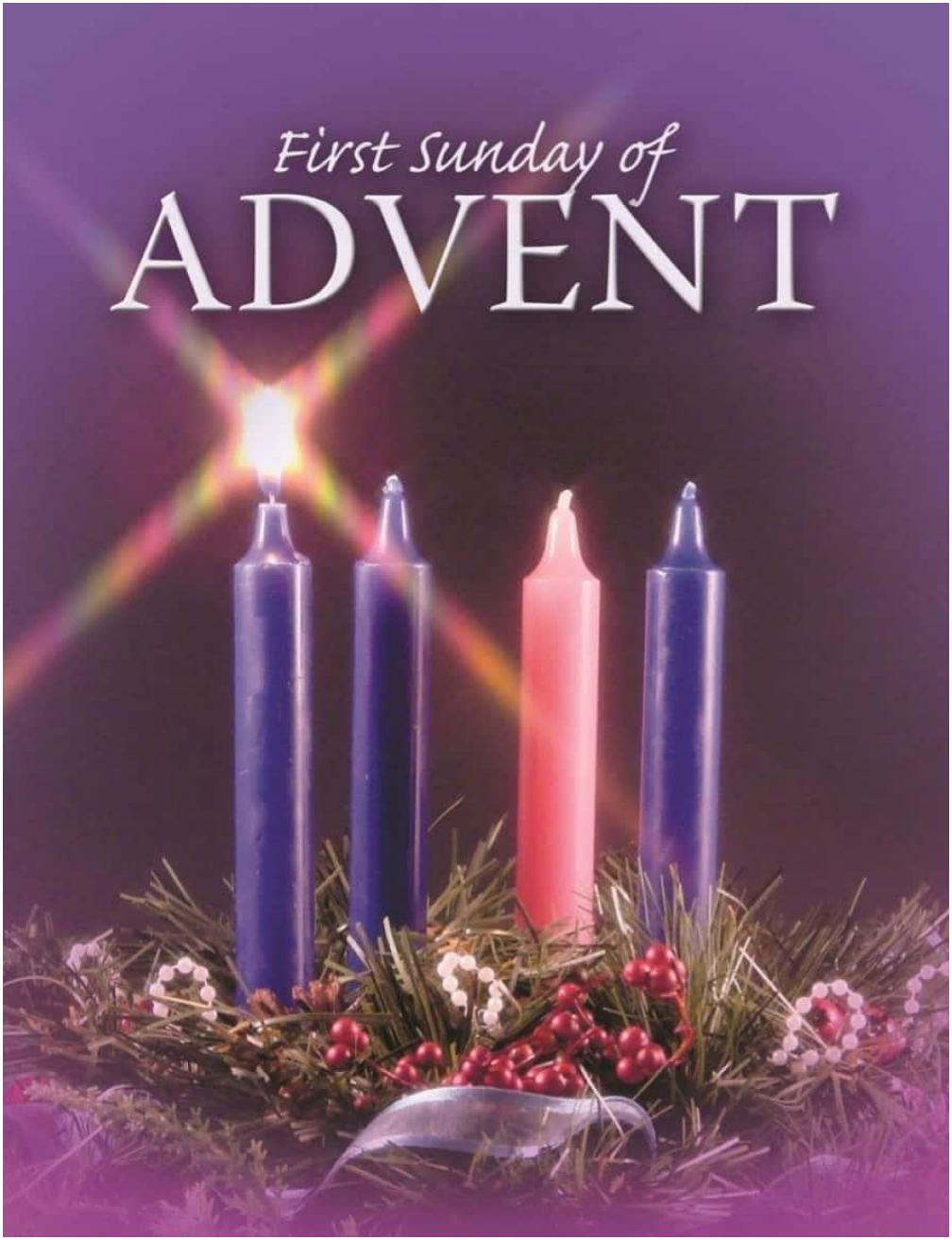

First Sunday of
ADVENT

1st Sunday of Advent

November 29th, 2026

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church

A Total Ministry Congregation

820 Fourth Street
P.O. Box 170
International Falls, Minnesota

218-283-8606

www.ifhtec.org holytrinityif@midconetwork.com

Our Mission: To seek, know, love and serve
Christ in all persons and all Creation.

Ministers:	All the Baptized
Celebrant:	The Rev Dr Samantha Crossley
Deacon:	Venerable Archdeacon Lee Grim
Readers:	Georgeann Wright
Music:	Gerry & Jackie Guimond & Gavia Yount
Bishop of Minnesota:	The Rt. Rev. Craig Loya

Watch Holy Trinity Livestream on Facebook
Sundays: 10:00 am
Services can also be viewed on KCC-TV

RISE UP, JERUSALEM *Tim Schoenbachler*

R. *Rise up, rise up, rise up, rise up, Jerusalem!*
*Sing out, ring out, sing out, sing out, Jerusalem! *(fine)*
Rejoice, the day is near!

1. Sing all you people for the day is near.
Sing all you people, wash away your fear.
Ev'ryone get ready for salvation is near.
-- Emmanuel shall come, the long awaited one.
-- Emmanuel, come to us. ***R.***

2. A voice in the desert cries "Prepare the way."
A voice in the desert cries "Today's the day."
Ev'ryone get ready for the Lord is on his way.
-- Emmanuel shall come, the long awaited one.
-- Emmanuel, come to us. ***R.***

3. Rejoice, oh Jerusalem, and start anew.
Rejoice, oh Jerusalem, he comes to you.
Ev'ryone get ready for the Lord will light the way.
-- Emmanuel shall come, the long awaited one.
-- Emmanuel, come to us. ***R.***

*(Lines in **BOLD** are spoken by the People)*

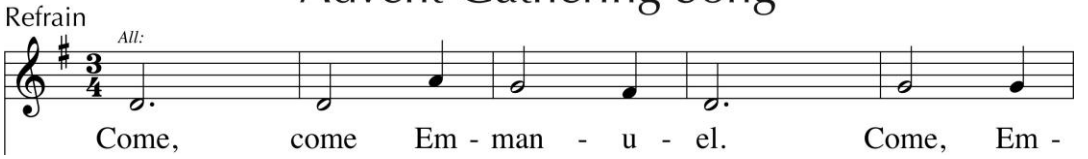
Celebrant: Blessed be God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

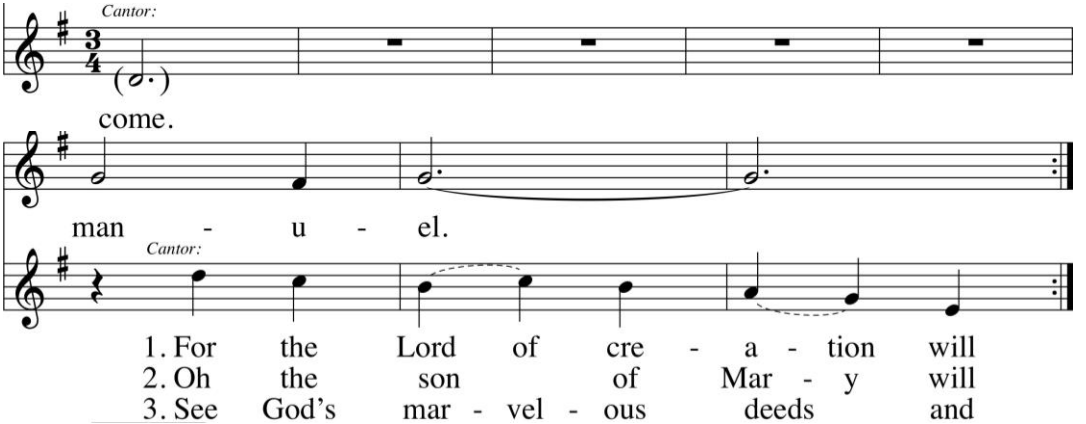
People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Celebrant says

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

Advent Gathering Song





Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Rend the heavens and come down, O God of all the ages! Rouse us from sleep, deliver us from our heedless ways, and form us into a watchful people, that, at the advent of your Son, he may find us doing what is right, mindful of all you command. Grant this through him whose coming is certain, whose day draws near: your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

Please be seated.

First Reading *Isaiah 64:1-9*

[1]O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
[2]as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
[3]When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
[4]From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him.

[5]You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
[6]We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
[7]There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
[8]Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.
[9]Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 80: 1-7,16-18



1. You brought a vine out of Egypt; to plant it you drove out the nations.
It stretched out its branches to the sea,
to the Great River it stretched out its shoots.

2. Then why have you broken down its walls?
It is plucked by all who pass by.
It is ravaged by the boar of the forest, devoured by the beasts of the field.

3. God of hosts, turn again, we implore look down from heaven and see.
Visit the vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted.

4. And we shall never forsake you again;
give us life that we may call upon your name.
God of hosts, bring us back;
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

Second Reading *1 Corinthians 1:3-9*

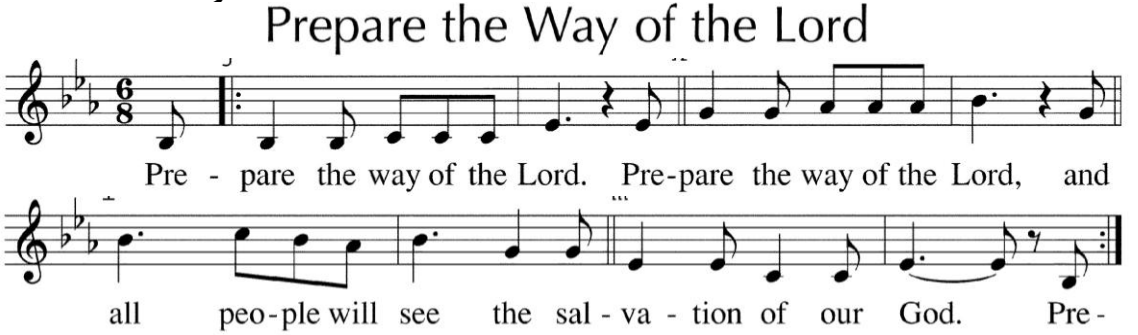
3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
4 I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that
has been given you in Christ Jesus, 5 for in every way you have been
enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— 6 just as the
testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— 7 so that you are
not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord
Jesus Christ. 8 He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be
blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is faithful; by him
you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All who are able, please stand.

Gradual Hymn



Holy Gospel *Mark 13:24-37*

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

[Jesus said,] 24 "In those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
25 and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.
26 Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power
and glory.

[27]Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

[28]"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. [29]So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. [30]Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. [31]Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

[32]"But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. [33]Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. [34]It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. [35]Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, [36]or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. [37]And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Please be seated

Sermon

All who are able, please stand.
People and Celebrant

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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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 People

At the beginning of this Advent season, let us offer our prayers to God, saying Lord, have mercy.

That our gracious Savior may rouse us from sleep and make us attentive to the nearness of his presence, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we may discover God's word in every sound of this world, God's touch in every human embrace, and God's love in every gesture of self-sacrifice among us, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That divine energy and holy grace may bring our hearts to vigilance and make us see with uncovered eyes the Christ who suffers in his people's agonies, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we may come to recognize in our holy assembly gathered for prayer that Jesus the Christ is with us here to make our songs of praise and pleading his own, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That God's coming into the days and years of our human history may be always new, always brimming with light to drive all darkness away, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all those in any need, especially Doug Jugovich, Roger Bergkamp, Glen Zimmer, Candace DeGagne, Tia Martins, Michael Valdez, Meghan Finlayson, Mike Solomon, Dave Karraffa, & Karen Cendejas. Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

We pray for the Minnesota Commission on Indian Work (MCIW), and for the Hispanic, Hmong, Liberian, and numerous multi-cultural ministries and faith communities throughout the Episcopal Church in Minnesota. For St. Johns' Anglican Church (*Fort Frances, Ontario*), and First Baptist Church (Int'l Falls). Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Make ready our hearts for your coming, O Lord, and receive our prayers in the name of the one who comes, our gracious Savior, Jesus, the Christ.

Celebrant says

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth; mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

Silence

Confession of Sin

All who are able, please kneel.

The Celebrant says

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these."

The Deacon then says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence

Minister and People

Most merciful God,
we confess that 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 are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. ***Amen.***

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Please be seated

Announcements

Holy Communion

The celebrant says

Walk in love as Christ loved us, and gave himself for us.

All who are able, please stand

Offertory Hymn

Come, Lord Jesus ©1994 Mark Friedman, OCP Publications

CANTOR: Come, Lord Jesus, come Come, Lord Jesus, Come

ALL: ***Come, Lord Jesus, come,-----Jesus, Come.***

	CANTOR	**ALL**
1.	Morning Star , shining bright.	***Come, O Lord!***
	Guiding us through the night.	***Come, Lord Jesus, come!***
2.	Wisdom come from above.	***Come, O Lord!***
	Spirit of heaven's love.	***Come, Lord Jesus, come!***
3.	Flower of Jesse's stem.	***Come, O Lord!***
	Come to bloom in our midst.	***Come, Lord Jesus, come!***
4.	Radiant Sun, Radiant Dawn.	***Come, O Lord!***
	Peace has come, justice won.	***Come, Lord Jesus, come!***
5.	Emmanuel, God with us.	***Come, O Lord!***
	Save us all, be with us.	***Come, Lord Jesus, come!***

Prayers Over The Gifts

Gracious God, accept these Gifts from your people in gratitude for all your blessings poured out upon us. ***Amen***

All who are able, please remain standing

Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

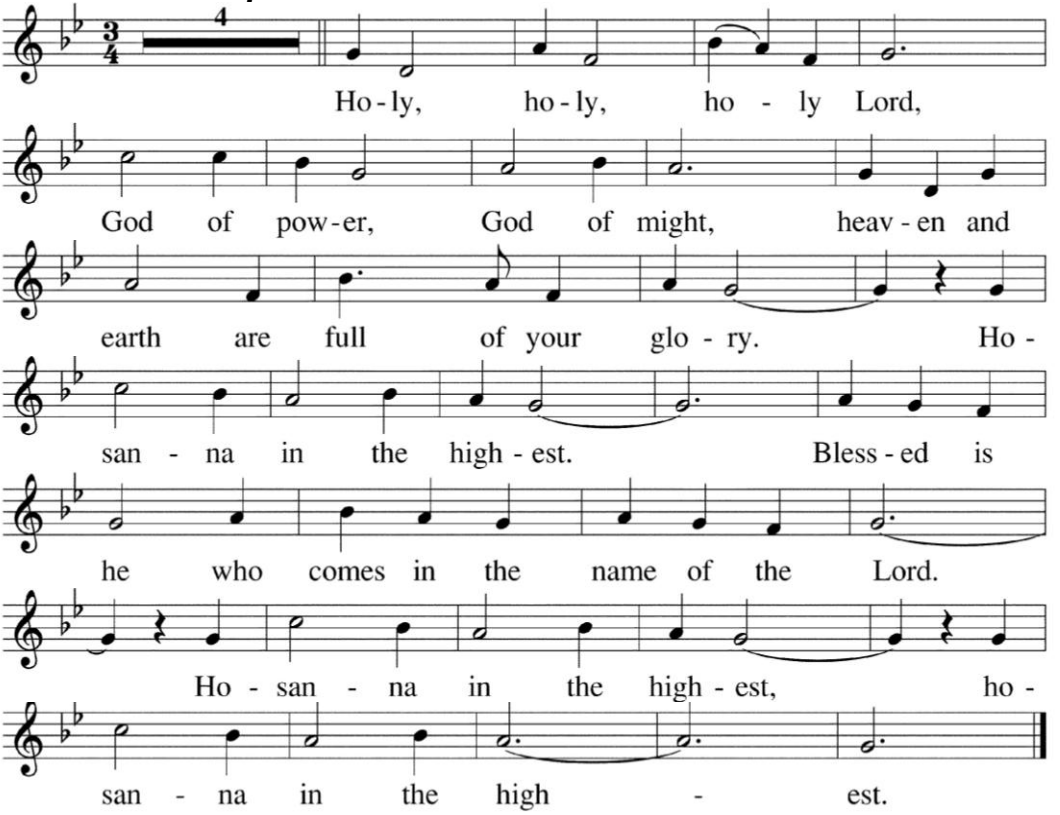
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant proceeds (Lines in **Bold** are spoken by the People)*

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

Celebrant and People



Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Celebrant and People

Dying, you destroyed our death.
Rising, you restored our life.
Christ Jesus, come in glory!

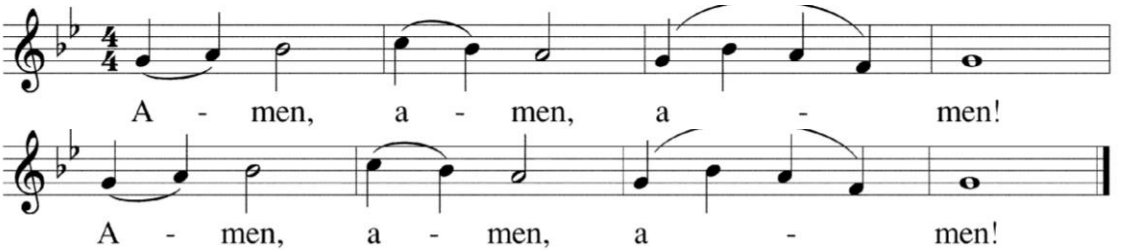
The Celebrant proceeds

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love.
Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with [blessed _____, and] all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

Celebrant and People

Blessed are you now and for ever.



The people may stand or kneel.

The Celebrant then continues

As our Savior Christ
has taught us,
we now pray,

People and Celebrant

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 for ever. Amen.

The Celebrant breaks the bread
A period of silence is kept.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast.

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion is open to everyone

Communion Hymn

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

1. O come, O come Emmanuel, and ransom captive Isra el
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Child of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

2. O come, O Wisdom from on high, and order all things far and nigh;
To us the path of knowledge show, and help us in that way to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

3. O come, O come, great Lord of might, who to the tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times did give the law, in cloud and majesty and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

4. O come, O Rod of Jesse's stem, from every foe deliver them
That trust your mighty pow'r to save and give them victory o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

5. O come, O Key of David, come and open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high and close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

6. O come, O Day-spring, come and cheer our spirits by your advent here;
Love stir within the womb of night, and death's own shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

7. O come, desire of Nations, bind in one the hearts of humankind
O bid our sad divisions cease, and be for us our King of Peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

All who are able, please stand or kneel

Celebrant and People

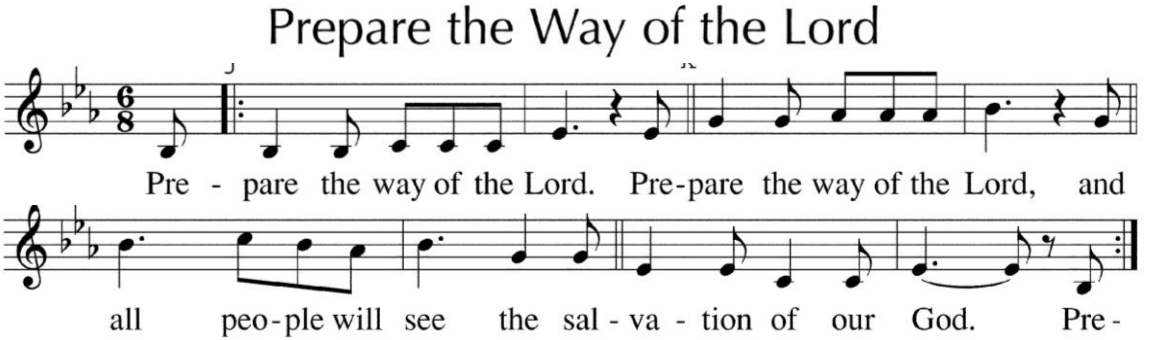
**Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image
and nourishing us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.
Now send us forth
a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;
that we may proclaim your love to the world
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Blessing

The priest blesses the people, saying

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. ***Amen***.

Closing Hymn:



Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the spirit.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymns are reprinted under OneLicense.net # A-709249 & CCLI # 22261172A & 22261189A

Next Sunday: December 6th ~ 10:00 a.m. ~ Holy Eucharist



2026 CHRISTMAS KIDS SHOP

The Christmas Kids shop is open and ready with lots of great items to choose from. Children can come and shop for free for Christmas gifts for their family while adults are enjoying a Christmas goodie in the café

At Holy Trinity (820 4th St.), the church with the red doors.

Hours are:	***Thurs 12/3***	***4:00 - 6:00 PM***
	Sat. 12/5	***10:00 AM - 2:00 PM***
	Thurs 12/10	***4:00 - 6:00 PM***
	Sat 12/12	***10:00 AM - 2:00 PM***



An Advent Moment

For Prayer, Meditation, Reflection, & Anticipation

The Church will be Open Thurs evenings 5:00 -7:00pm Dec. 3rd, 10th & 5:00- 6:30 pm Dec 17th as the "Blue Christmas Service @ Faith United is at 7:00pm"


Joe Belanger and Anna Schwartz
present
Jingle All the Keys
Four Hands, One Piano,
and a Whole Lot of Christmas.
Saturday, December 5, 2026
7:00 pm
(8:00 pm NW Ontario Time)
Faith United Church
1001 5th Street
International Falls
Please Join Us


Blue Christmas Service
Thursday, December 17, 2026
7:00 pm (8:00 pm NW Ontario Time)
Faith United Church of Christ
1001 5th Street • International Falls, MN 56649
The holiday season can be joyful, but it can also be
difficult for those experiencing grief, stress, or loneliness.
Our Blue Christmas Service offers a gentle, quiet time
of worship for anyone needing peace, comfort,
or space to reflect.
— All are welcome. —



Christmas Eve Service ~ 4:00 pm @ Holy Trinity



Advent Wreath

1st CANDLE – (purple) **THE PROPHECY CANDLE or CANDLE OF HOPE** – We can have hope because God is faithful and will keep the promises made to us. Our hope comes from God. (Romans 15:12-13)

2nd CANDLE – (purple) **THE BETHLEHEM CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF PREPARATION** – God kept his promise of a Savior who would be born in Bethlehem. Preparation means to "get ready". Help us to be ready to welcome YOU, O GOD! (Luke 3:4-6)

3rd CANDLE – (pink) **THE SHEPHERD CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF JOY** – The angels sang a message of JOY! (Luke 2:7-15)

4th CANDLE – (purple) **THE ANGEL CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF LOVE** – The angles announced the good news of a Savior. God sent his only Son to earth to save us, because he loves us! (John 3:16-17)



Poinsettias

Sign up sheet on front table



Nov 29- Dec 5 ~ Brent Schlieff

Congratulations to you: May your faith be true & may God's love and blessing descend upon you!