
THE CANDLE OF
Peace
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

2nd Sunday of Advent

December 6th, 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:	Erik Strand
Music:	Jeannie Strand & 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



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

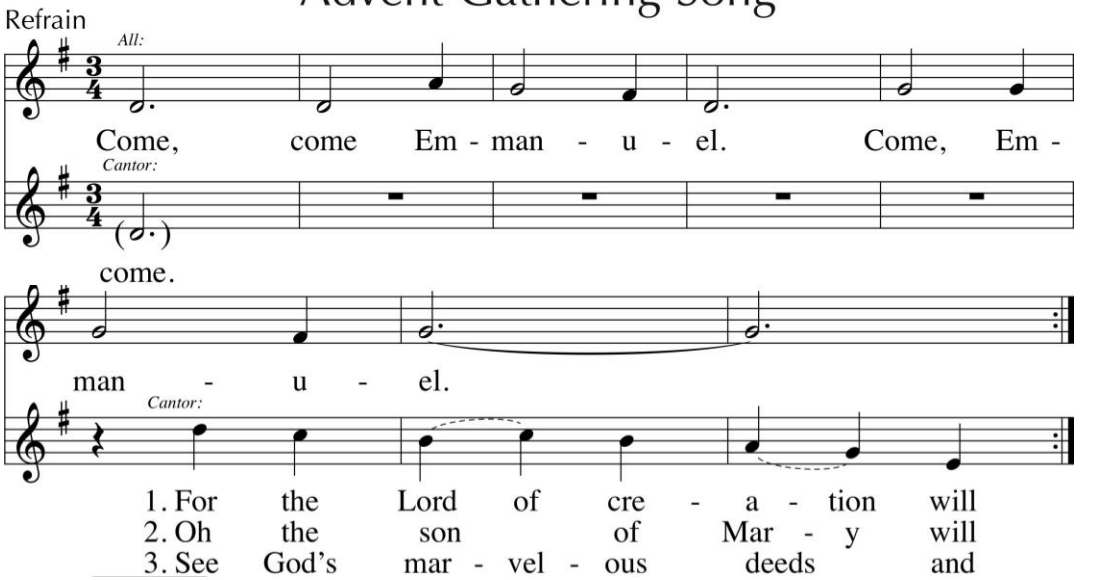
Celebrant: Blessed be God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

Please be seated.

First Reading *Isaiah 40:1-11*

1 "Comfort, O comfort my people,"
  says your God.
2 "Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
  and cry to her
that she has served her term,
  that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the LORD's hand
  double for all her sins."

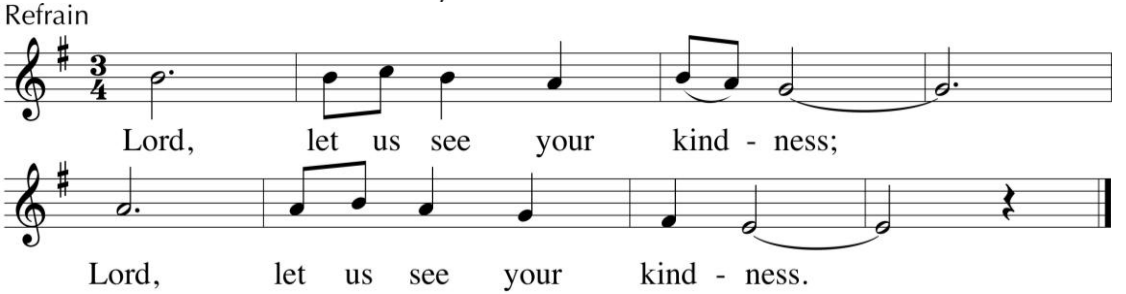
[3]A voice cries out:
"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
[4]Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.
[5]Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."
[6]A voice says, "Cry out!"
And I said, "What shall I cry?"
All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.
[7]The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.
[8]The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand forever.
[9]Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah,
"Here is your God!"
[10]See, the Lord GOD comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.
[11]He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 85: 1-2, 87-13

Psalm 85: Lord, Let Us See Your Kindness



1. Let us hear what our God proclaims: Peace to the people of God,
   salvation is near to the ones who fear God.

2. Kindness and truth, justice and peace;
   truth shall spring up as the water from the earth,
   justice shall rain from the heavens.

3. The Lord will come and you shall know his love,
   justice shall walk in his pathways, salvation the gift that he brings.

Second Reading *2 Peter 3: 8:15a*

[8]Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. [9]The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. [10]But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

[11]Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, [12]waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? [13]But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

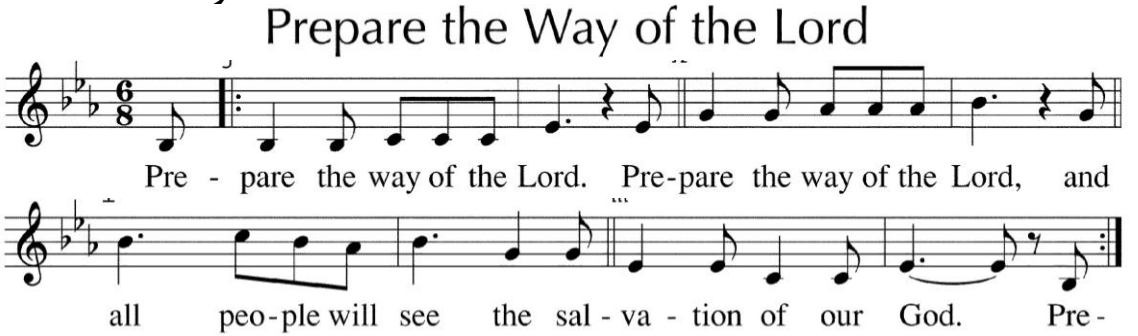
[14]Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; [15a]and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

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 1:1-8*

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

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

[1]The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.
[2]As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,
"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;
[3]the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
'Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,'"
[4]John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. [5]And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. [6]Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. [7]He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. [8]I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

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

In joy at the nearness of the Christ, let us offer our prayers to God, saying: Lord, hear our prayer.

May the power of God's holy presence clear a path through the rubble of broken lives and hearts to make our world and all of us a new creation. For this let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

May our gracious God be always for us a shepherd to console and comfort us, to nourish all our deep hungers, and to make us live in peace forever. For this let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

May we come to find in the desert of our lives the gift of forgiveness and the waters of a new Jordan that bring cleansing refreshment. For this let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

May the God of John the Baptist and our God continue to raise up holy prophets in our midst who will tell the good news of saving rescue for all people. For this let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

May the God who is our comfort hear the cries of all in need. For this let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

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. For this let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for the foundations that minister to children with special needs, especially for the work of the Sheltering Arms Foundation and for all who work in child protection agencies throughout the state of Minnesota. For St. Johns' Anglican Church (*Fort Frances, Ontario*), and First Lutheran Church (Int'l Falls). For this let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

May the God who is our future in the gift of Jesus Christ hold us always in the embrace of faithful love and bring us to new heavens and a new earth. For this let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Recall us to our baptism, O Lord, and hear our cries for ourselves and for the whole world, for we pray in the name of the one who came, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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



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.

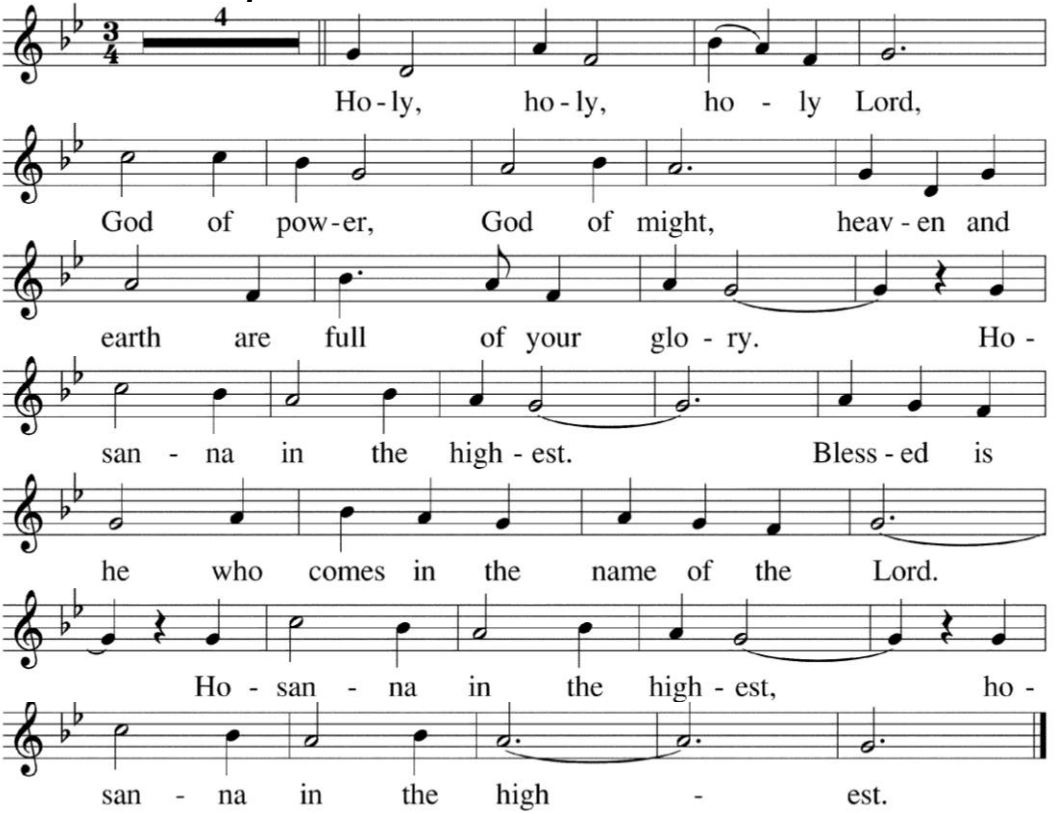
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*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

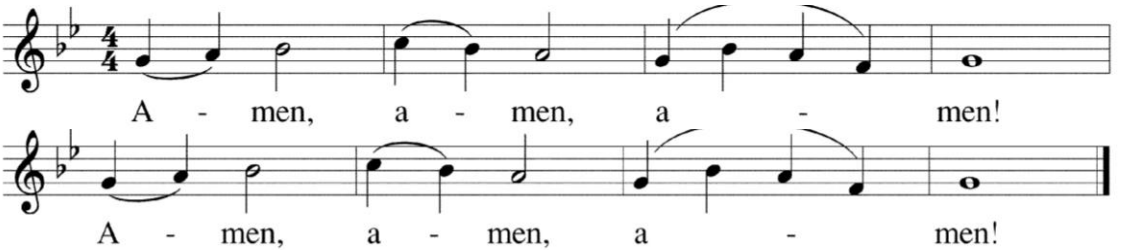
Dying, you destroyed our death.
Rising, you restored our life.
Christ Jesus, come in glory!

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



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.

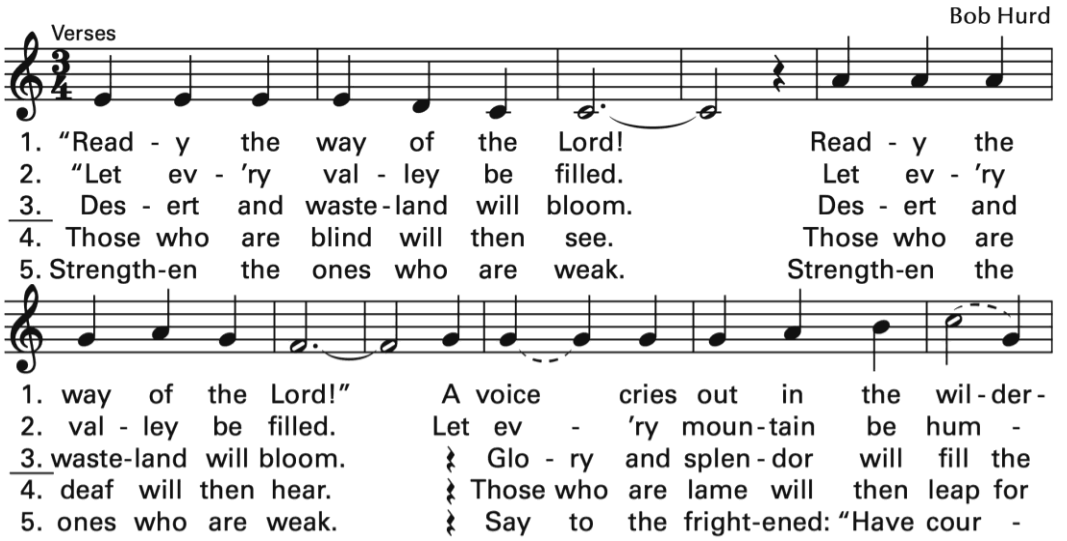
Blessing

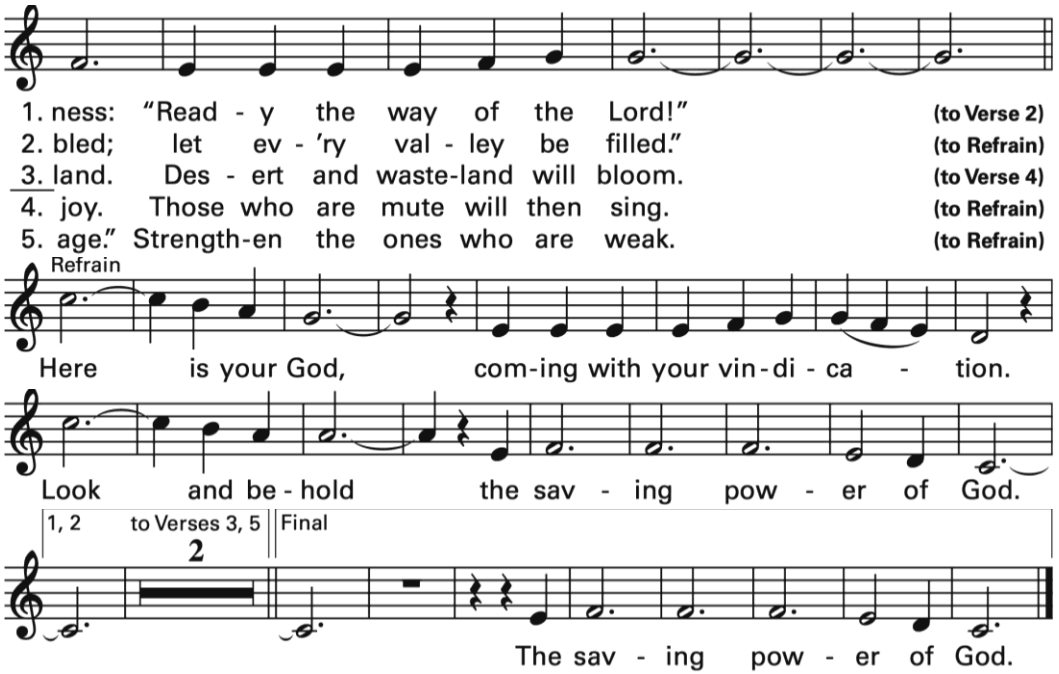
The priest blesses the people, saying

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:

READY THE WAY





Dismissal

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

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Next Sunday: December 13th ~ 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 12/10 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"





Christmas Eve Service ~ 4:00 pm @ Holy Trinity



Poinsettias

Sign up sheet on front table



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)



Dec 6 – 12th ~ Charlie Klatt

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