

The Lord Fills
His Temples



December 31, 2023



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Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship! In our service, we receive God's grace through his Word and sacraments. As he works to strengthen our faith in Jesus, we respond to his goodness with our prayers, praise, and offerings. We are glad to be here and glad that you have joined us today!

- Restrooms are located in the main hallway, narthex, and back classrooms.
- If you wish to step out of the service to calm your child, please feel welcome to use the Fellowship Hall or the Toddler Sunday School Room (located in the back corner classroom of the building, connected to the Fellowship Hall). Both of these rooms have televisions showing the worship service. Also, please do not hesitate to ask an usher or any member if you need help locating anything. We want to make you feel welcome.

Serving the Lord and Serving Us:

Pastor: Rev. Paul Jenkins

Today's Focus: The glory of the Lord fills his temples, including his saints. Our worship follows *Morning Praise*.

We Come into the Presence of God

PASTOR'S GREETING AND INTRODUCTION TO WORSHIP

MUSICAL INTRODUCTION

This is an opportunity to quiet your mind and heart and prepare for the joy of worshipping your God.

STAND

MORNING HYMN



1 Fa - ther, we praise you, now the night is o - ver, Ac - tive and
2 Mon - arch of all things, fit us for your man - sions; Ban - ish our
3 All - ho - ly Fa - ther, Son, and e - qual Spir - it, Trin - i - ty



watch - ful, stand - ing now be - fore you. Sing - ing, we of - fer
weak - ness, health and whole - ness send - ing. Bring us to heav - en,
bless - ed, send us your sal - va - tion. Yours is the glo - ry,



prayer and med - i - ta - tion; Thus we a - dore you.
where your saints u - nit - ed Joy with - out end - ing.
gleam - ing and re - sound - ing Through all cre - a - tion.

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION

M: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, for sins of habit and sins of choice, for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, you should cast me away from your presence forever. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.

M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: Christ, have mercy.

M: For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.

C: Amen.

M: The Spirit of the Lord fills the world: let us worship him.

OH, COME, LET US SING TO THE LORD

C: Oh, come, let us sing to the Lord, let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion. Let us come into his presence with thanks-giv - ing, let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise. For the Lord is a great God and a great king a-bove all gods. The deep places of the earth are in his hand; the heights of the hills are al - so his. The sea is his, for he made it, and his hand formed the dry land. Oh, come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our mak - er. For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The melody consists of a series of eighth and quarter notes, often beamed together in pairs or groups of four. The lyrics are placed below the staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

PRAYER

M: Almighty God, in mercy you sent your one and only Son to take upon himself our human nature. By his gracious coming deliver us from the corruption of our sin and transform us into the likeness of his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

BE SEATED

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

1 King 8:16-23

The glory of the Lord fills Solomon's temple as the priests carry in the Ark of the Covenant.

The priests brought the Ark of the Covenant of the LORD to its place in the inner sanctuary of the house, to the Most Holy Place, under the wings of the cherubim, ⁷ for the cherubim were spreading their wings over the place for the ark, so that the cherubim covered the ark and its poles with their wings. ⁸ The poles were so long that the ends of the poles could be seen from the Holy Place in front of the inner sanctuary, but they could not be seen from outside. They are there to this day.

⁹ There was nothing in the ark except the two stone tablets, which Moses had placed there at Horeb, where the LORD made a covenant with the people of Israel when they came out of the land of Egypt.

¹⁰ When the priests came out from the Holy Place, the cloud filled the House of the LORD. ¹¹ The priests were not able to take their positions to minister in the presence of the cloud, because the Glory of the LORD had filled the House of the LORD.

¹² Then Solomon said, "The LORD has said that he dwells in thick darkness. ¹³ I have truly built a majestic house for you, a place for you to dwell forever."

PSALM 2

Read Responsively

M: Why do the nations conspire

C: and the peoples plot in vain?

M: The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the LORD

C: and against his Anointed One.

M: The One enthroned in heaven laughs;

C: the LORD scoffs at them.

M: Then he rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, saying,

C: "I have installed my King on Zion, my holy hill."

M: I will proclaim the decree of the LORD:

C: He said to me, "You are my Son; today I have become your Father."

SECOND LESSON AND SERMON TEXT

Colossians 3:12-17

Therefore, as God's elect, holy and loved, clothe yourselves with heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. ¹³Bear with one another and forgive each other if anyone has a complaint against anyone else. Forgive, just as Christ forgave you. ¹⁴And, in addition to all these things, put on love, which ties things together in perfect unity. ¹⁵Let the peace of Christ control your hearts, to which you were also called, in one body. And be thankful.

¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, with gratitude in your hearts to God. ¹⁷And everything you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

SEASONAL SENTENCE

M: We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

GOSPEL

Luke 2:22-40

The Lord again fills the temple with divine glory, this time wrapped in the flesh of an infant, inspiring praise from his saints.

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord.²³ (As it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male will be called holy to the Lord.")²⁴ And they came to offer a sacrifice according to what was said in the law of the Lord, "A pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon. This man was righteous and devout, waiting for the comfort of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷ Moved by the Spirit he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what was customary according to the law, ²⁸ Simeon took him into his arms and praised God.

He said,

²⁹ Lord, you now dismiss your servant in peace, according to your word,

³⁰ because my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹ which you have prepared before the face of all people,

³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.

³³ Joseph and the child's mother were amazed at the things that were spoken about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Listen carefully, this child is appointed for the falling and rising of many in Israel and for a sign that is spoken against, ³⁵ so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too."

³⁶ Anna, a prophetess, was there. She was a daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old. She had lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, ³⁷ and then she was a widow of eighty-four years. She did not leave the temple complex, since she was worshipping with fasting and prayers night and day. ³⁸ Standing nearby at that very hour, she gave thanks to the Lord. She kept speaking about the child to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹ When they had accomplished everything according to the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town, Nazareth. ⁴⁰ The child grew and became strong. He was filled with wisdom, and God's favor was on him.

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there 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 everlasting. Amen.**

BE SEATED

CHILDREN'S SERMON: "Sing Like Simeon"

HYMN OF THE DAY: 43 “To Thee My Heart I Offer”



1 To thee my heart I of - fer, O Christ - child
 2 My heart with - in is glow - ing, O Christ - child
 3 What brought thee to the man - ger, O Christ - child,
 4 Let me be thine for - ev - er, O Christ - child



sweet and dear, Up - on thy love re - ly - ing; Oh,
 sweet and dear. I love thee, Lord and Sav - ior; Oh,
 sweet and dear? Thy love for me, a stran - ger—Oh,
 sweet and dear. Up - hold me with thy mer - cy; Oh,



be thou ev - er near! Take thou my heart and give me thine,
 be thou ev - er near! I see thee in a man - ger laid,
 be thou ev - er near! O Lord, how great is this thy love
 be thou ev - er near! From thee I glad - ly all re - ceive,



And let it be for - ev - er mine, O Je - sus,
 Near cat - tle rest - ing un - a - fraid; I see thy
 That reach - es down from heav'n a - bove, Thy love for
 And what is mine to thee I give; My heart, my



ho - ly, un - de - filed, My Sav - ior meek and mild.
 deep hu - mil - i - ty And low - ly bow to thee.
 us, by sin de - filed, That made thee, God, a child!
 soul, and all I own—Let these be thine a - lone.

Text: *Ausserlesenes . . . GesangBuchlein*, Trier, 1653, abr.; tr. *The Lutheran Hymnal*, St. Louis, 1941.

Tune: CORDIS DONUM (76 76 88 86) *Ausserlesenes . . . GesangBuchlein*, Trier, 1653.

SERMON

Text: Colossians 3:12-17

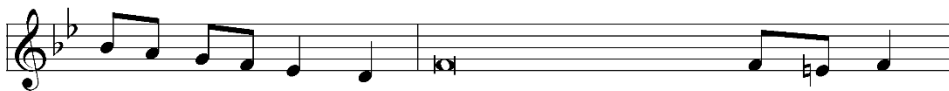
Theme: The Lord Fills His Temples

STAND

WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD



C: We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord; all creation worships you,



Fa-ther ev - er - last - ing. To you all angels, all the pow'rs of heav'n,



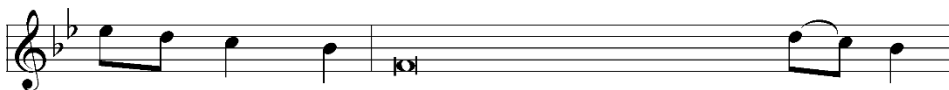
cherubim and seraphim, sing in end-less praise: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of



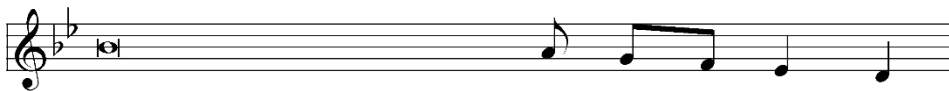
heav'n - ly hosts, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry.



The glorious company of apostles praise you. The noble fellowship of



proph - ets praise you. The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.



Throughout the world the ho - ly Church ac - claims you:



Father of majesty unbounded, your glorious, true, and on - ly Son,

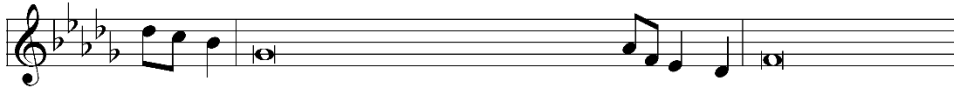
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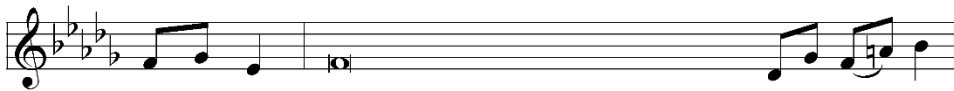
and the Holy Spirit, ad - vo - cate and guide. You, Christ, are the King of



glo - ry, the eternal Son of the Fa - ther. When you became man to



set us free, you humbled yourself to be born of a vir - gin. You overcame the



sting of death and opened the kingdom of heaven to all be - liev - ers.



You sit at the right hand of God in the glory of the Fa - ther.



We believe that you will come to be our judge.



Come then, Lord, and help your peo - ple, bought with the price of



your own blood, and bring us with your saints to glory ev - er - last - ing.

BE SEATED

OFFERING

Please take a moment to fill in the Friendship Register in the pew.

The members of Trinity make joyful offerings to support this church's ministry. A portion of our offerings is also used for the training of future pastors and teachers, and the worldwide mission work carried out by our fellowship, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Our guests are under no obligation to give, but any gifts freely given are welcome and will be put to work in service to God's kingdom.

STAND

LORD HAVE MERCY

M: In the morning, O Lord, I call to you; be merciful to me and hear my prayer.

C: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: I will exalt you, my God and King; I will praise your name for ever and ever.

C: Every day I will praise you and extol your name.

M: It is fitting, O Lord, in the final hours of this year, to express our gratitude for the countless gifts of grace we have received from you.

C: You have been faithful to your promises and loving toward all you have made.

M: You clothe your creation with beauty; you feed even the birds and tell us that we are much more valuable than they.

C: You know what we need, and you give us all good things.

M: Clothing and food, safety and health, possessions and money, even life itself – all these come to us from your generous hand.

C: We thank you for these blessings, and we ask that you continue to grant them to us.

(Continued on Next Page)

M: We thank you especially for your Word and Holy Supper, which strengthen our faith, shield us from temptation, and equip us for service.

C: Increase our commitments to these precious gifts, so that we may continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Special prayers

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer

M: Almighty and eternal God, you have been gracious and compassionate, slow to anger, and rich in love. As you led your people Israel with a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night, so lead us by the light of your Word, so that we may live our lives to your glory and be prepared to depart in peace.

C: We ask these things in the name of Jesus. In his name we began this year; in his name we bring it to a close. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

PRAYER FOR GRACE

M: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: Amen.

BE SEATED

CLOSING HYMN: 71 “The Old Year Now Has Passed Away”



1 The old year now has passed a - way; We thank you,
2 We pray you, O e - ter - nal Son, Who with the
3 Take not your sav - ing Word a - way, Which lights and
4 Oh, help us to for - sake all sin, A new and
5 Where - in as Chris - tians we may live Or die in



O our God, to - day That you have kept us
Fa - ther reigns as one, To guard and rule your
cheers our souls each day. A - bid with us and
ho - lier life be - gin! For - give the old year's
peace that you can give, To rise a - gain when



through the year When dan - ger and dis - tress were near.
Chris - ten - dom Through all the a - ges yet to come.
keep us free From er - ror and hy - poc - ri - sy.
sins, and bless The new year with true hap - pi - ness,
you will come And en - ter your e - ter - nal home.

6 There shall we thank you and adore
With all the angels evermore.
Lord Jesus Christ, increase our faith
To praise your name through life and death.

Text: attr. Johann Steurlein, 1546–1613; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: HERR JESU CHRIST, DICH ZU UNS WEND (LM) *Cantionale Germanicum*, Goehsheim, 1628.

Trinity Lutheran Church

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Find us online at www.TrinityofWoodbridge.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/trinityofwoodbridge

Catechism and Bible Class Schedules

There will be no catechesis or Bible class today. Both will resume on January 7.

Wine and Word Bible Study – January 4

The Wine and Word Bible Study meets at the home of Bruce and Dawn Knox. Their home is located just 5 minutes from the church in Old Bridge Estates. We meet the 1st and 3rd Thursdays from 7-8:30 pm. We are studying the book of Revelation with Larry Kovaciny as our guide. Those who wish can bring a bottle of wine and a small bite appetizer. Come and join us whether you drink wine or not! Contact Dawn at 703-615-9320 or dawn.f.knox@gmail.com to RSVP.

Women's Bible Study - Saturday, January 13

The Trinity Women's Bible Study will meet on Saturday, January 13 at 9:00 am at Trinity. We will be reading chapter four of "Esther: Providential Persian Queen" by Lou Ann Mokwa. Copies of the book can be found in the narthex.

Small Choir

Trinity's small choir sings about once a month during Worship. Anyone is welcome to join! We'll sing hymns from our hymnal, Christian Worship. If you are interested in joining, please let John or Erika Ohlendorf know.

Ushers and Usher Assistants Needed

A sign-up sheet is sent via email through Sign-up Genius. You are welcome to fill in as many Sundays as you are available. If you would like to become part of the regular rotation of ushers, or even just fill in once in a while when needed, please speak to Worship Elder Matt Popelier. If you are not getting the emails for Sign-Up Genius, please email admin@trinityofwoodbridge.org

Our Little Free Library

Our Little Free Library always welcomes donations of books and food! If the library outside is full, you can place donations in the white plastic bin in the Fellowship Hall right beside the door to the hallway.

Lord's Supper Available to All Members

If you are a confirmed member of Trinity, Pastor would be happy to commune you at home, or anywhere else you would like to meet. Just contact him at (309) 433-5807 or revpauljenkins@yahoo.com with a date, time, and place, and he will make it work

It is the mission of

trinity



LUTHERAN
CHURCH

to glorify God

by growing in His Word and by going with His Word

to Woodbridge and to the world.



Trinity Lutheran Church is part of a group of nearly 1,300 churches called the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod or WELS. The WELS is a world-wide church with congregations serving in all fifty of the United States, as well as in Mexico and Canada. The WELS also serves over 26 foreign countries through world mission work. We are united in faith and teaching with the other churches of the WELS as well as the members of the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference, consisting of 21 confessional Lutheran church bodies throughout the world.