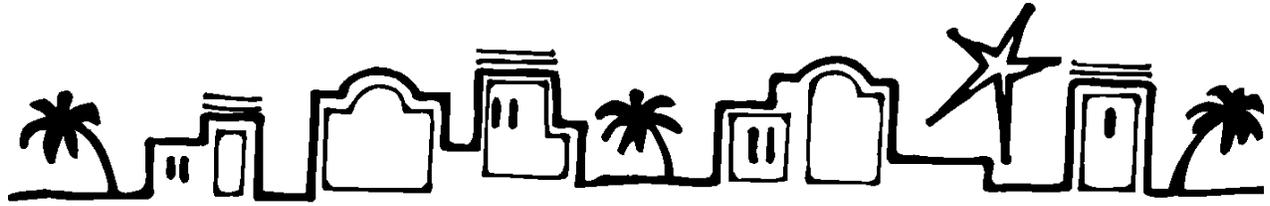




Third Sunday in Advent

December 14, 2025



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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. Gary Wong

We Come into the Presence of God

MUSICAL INTRODUCTION

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

OPENING HYMN: 12 "Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes



1 Hark the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, The Sav - ior
2 He comes the cap - tives to re - lease, In Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, The bleed - ing
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, Your wel - come



prom - ised long; Let ev - 'ry heart pre -
pris - on held. The gates of brass be -
soul to cure, And with the trea - sures
shall pro - claim, And heav'n's e - ter - nal



pare a throne And ev - 'ry voice a song.
fore him burst; The i - ron fet - ters yield.
of his grace To en - rich the hum - ble poor.
arch - es ring With your be - lov - ed name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–51, abr., alt.
Tune: CHESTERFIELD (CM) Thomas Haweis, 1734–1820, alt.

Stand

INVOCATION

Minister: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

OH, TASTE AND SEE

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e - ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav - ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for - ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are placed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Hear our prayers, Lord Jesus Christ, and come with the good news of your mighty deliverance. Drive the darkness from our hearts and fill us with your light; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be seated

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 35:1-10

The wilderness and the desert will be glad.

The wasteland of the Arabah will rejoice and blossom like a crocus.

² It will bloom lavishly,

and there will be great joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon will be given to it.

It will be excellent like Carmel and Sharon.

They will see the glory of the Lord,

the majesty of our God.

³ Strengthen the weak hands,

and make the shaky knees steady.

⁴ Tell those who have a fearful heart:

Be strong.

Do not be afraid.

Look! Your God will come with vengeance.

With God's own retribution, he will come and save you.

⁵ Then the eyes of the blind will be opened,

and the ears of the deaf will be unplugged.

⁶ The crippled will leap like a deer,

and the tongue of the mute will sing for joy.

Waters will flow in the wilderness,

and streams in the wasteland.

⁷ The burning sand will become a pool,

and in the thirsty ground there will be springs of water.

There will be grass, reeds, and rushes where the haunts

of jackals once lay.

⁸ A highway will be there,

a road that will be called the holy way.

The impure will not walk there.

It will be reserved for those who walk in that holy way.

Wicked fools will not wander onto it.

⁹ No lion will be there,

nor will any ferocious animal go up on it.

They will not be found there,

(Continued on Next Page)

but only the redeemed will walk there.
10 Then those ransomed by the Lord will return.
They will enter Zion with a joyful shout,
and everlasting joy will crown their heads.
Happiness and joy will overtake them,
and sorrow and sighing will flee away.

PSALM OF THE DAY: 146

Read Responsively

M: Praise the Lord, O my soul.

C: I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

M: Do not put your trust in princes,

C: In mortal men, who cannot save.

M: Blessed is he whose hope is in the Lord his God,

C: The maker of heaven and earth.

M: The Lord gives food to the hungry,

C: The Lord sets prisoners free.

M: The Lord gives sight to the blind,

C: The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down.

M: The Lord watches over the outcast

C: And sustains the fatherless and the widow.

M: The Lord remains faithful forever.

C: He upholds the cause of the oppressed.

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.**

SECOND LESSON

James 5:7-11

⁷ Therefore, brothers, be patient until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the valuable harvest from the ground, patiently waiting for it, until it receives the early and late rain. ⁸ You be patient too. Strengthen your hearts because the coming of the Lord is near.

⁹ Do not complain about one another, brothers, so that you will not be judged. Look! The Judge is standing at the doors! ¹⁰ Brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord as an example of suffering with patient endurance. ¹¹ See, we consider those who endured to be blessed. You have heard of the patient endurance of Job and have seen what the Lord did in the end, because the Lord is especially compassionate and merciful.

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia. I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you. Alleluia.
(*Matthew 11:10 cf. NIV*)

Stand

GOSPEL AND SERMON TEXT

Luke 1:26-38

²⁶In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin pledged in marriage to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women."

²⁹ But she was greatly troubled by the statement and was wondering what kind of greeting this could be. ³⁰ The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, because you have found favor with God. ³¹ Listen, you will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to name him Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David. ³³ He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and his kingdom will never end."

³⁴ Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

³⁵ The angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. ³⁶ Listen, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age even though she was called barren, and this is her sixth month. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible for God."

³⁸ Then Mary said, "See, I am the Lord's servant. May it happen to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.

M: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be Seated

HYMN OF THE DAY: 93 Hail to the Lord's Anointed



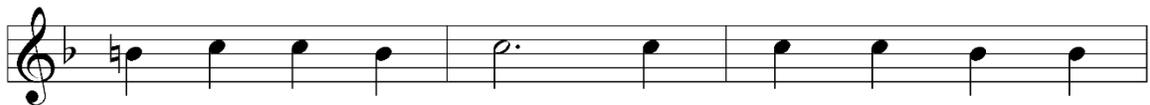
1 Hail to the Lord's A - noint - ed, Great Da - vid's great - er
 2 He comes with res - cue speed - y To those who suf - fer
 3 Kings shall bow down be - fore him And gold and in - cense
 4 O'er ev - 'ry foe vic - to - rious, He on his throne shall



Son! Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, His reign on
 wrong, To help the poor and need - y And bid the
 bring; All na - tions shall a - dore him; His praise all
 rest, From age to age more glo - rious, All bless - ing



earth be - gun! He comes to break op - pres - sion, To
 weak be strong, To give them songs for sigh - ing, Their
 peo - ple sing. To him shall prayer un - ceas - ing And
 and all - blest. The tide of time shall nev - er His



set the cap - tive free, To take a - way trans -
 dark - ness turn to light Whose souls, con - demned and
 dai - ly vows as - cend, His king - dom still in -
 cov - e - nant re - move; His name shall stand for -



gres - sion, And rule in eq - ui - ty.
 dy - ing, Are pre - cious in his sight.
 creas - ing, A king - dom with - out end.
 ev - er— That name to us is Love.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, abr., alt.

Tune: FREUT EUCH, IHR LIEBEN CHRISTEN (76 76 D) Leonhart Schröter, c. 1532–c. 1601.

SERMON

Stand

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

OFFERING

Please take a moment to sign the friendship register found in your 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

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Eternal God and Father, we give you thanks for the blessings we share as members of your holy Church, for your gracious Word and sacraments, for opportunities to worship and to grow in faith and knowledge, for occasions to serve and be served, for fellowship with believers in our congregation and in our synod.

C: Help us to rejoice in these blessings, dear Lord, and to use them faithfully.

M: Jesus Christ, Lord of the Church, you give grace to your people by calling us to be your witnesses in the world. Open our eyes to see the great and noble mission that lies before us. In the hurting eyes of the lonely, in the pained eyes of the sick, and in the searching eyes of the lost, help us to see your face, O Jesus, and to serve others as we would serve you.

C: Awaken us to the opportunities you give to proclaim your message of love.

(Continued on Next Page)

M: Holy Spirit, giver of life, through Word and sacrament bestow on us the wisdom and power we need to witness clearly and to act boldly. Help us to speak the truth in love, to give the reason for the hope we have, and to conduct ourselves with gentleness and respect.

C: Set our hearts on fire as we work and witness for Christ.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we pray for a family member, an acquaintance, a neighbor, or a friend who does not believe in you, or whose faith is weak or troubled.

Silent prayer.

M: Bless the Church with men and women who are willing to proclaim your Word in places where we cannot go. Keep them and their loved ones in your care, and let nothing hinder their work. By the power of the gospel, restore their spirits each day, so that they do not lose heart as they serve us and others.

C: Move us to support them with our sincere prayers and generous offerings.

Special prayers

M: Wherever your Word is proclaimed, O Lord, grant it success. Let your kingdom come to us and others, so that we and many more might join the assembly of saints and angels to sing your praise forever.

C: Savior of all, hear our prayer and help us in our mission. 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.

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.

CLOSING HYMN: 353 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness



1 Praise the one who breaks the dark - ness With a
2 Praise the one who blessed the chil - dren With a
3 Let us praise the Word in - car - nate, Christ, who



lib - er - a - ting light; Praise the one who frees the
strong, yet gen - tle, word; Praise the one who drove out
suf - fered in our place; Je - sus died and rose vic -



pris - 'ners, Turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.
de - mons With the pierc - ing, two - edged sword.
to - rious That we may know God by grace.



Praise the one who preached the gos - pel, Heal - ing
Praise the one who brings cool wa - ter To the
Let us sing for joy and glad - ness, See - ing



ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm - ing storms and feed - ing
des - ert's burn - ing sand; From this well comes liv - ing
what our God has done; Let us praise the true Re -



thou - sands With the Fa - ther's word of peace.
wa - ter, Quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
deem - er, Praise the one who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955, alt. © 1987 Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.
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Tune: BEACH SPRING (87 87 D) attr. Benjamin F. White, 1800-79.

Trinity Lutheran Church

12345 Cotton Mill Drive, Woodbridge, VA

Find us online at www.TrinityofWoodbridge.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/trinityofwoodbridge

Rev. Gary Wong: revgwong@gmail.com

We're looking for volunteers to help provide snacks for our Sunday School and Fellowship Hour!

If you're able to bless our community with simple treats, please sign up on the sheet posted on the Sunday School bulletin board located in the large fellowship and adult Sunday School room. Your contributions help make our time together even more welcoming and enjoyable—thank you for supporting our fellowship!

Advent and Christmas Worship Information

Our final midweek Advent supper & devotion is this Wednesday, December 17. The supper starts at 6 (doors open about 5:30), and is potluck. Please bring something to share if you can; beverages and tableware are provided. The Children's Christmas Worship Service will be TODAY during the 11:00 service.. Christmas Eve Candlelight services will be at 5:00 and 7:00; Christmas Day worship is at 10:00.

Warm in Woodbridge Supply Drive

Trinity's Sunday School kids are holding their annual "Warm in Woodbridge" drive to collect items for the homeless people of Woodbridge. They have set up a large collection bin in the narthex where you can place your donations. This year, the warm items particularly needed are socks, gloves/mittens, hats, scarves, and blankets. New and gently used coats are also welcome. Hygiene items needed right now are toothpaste and toothbrushes, deodorant, chapstick, and bath wipes or baby wipes. This collection ends on Sunday, December 14. All items will be distributed by the H.U.G.S. organization.

Sunday Morning Bible Study meets at 9:45am The next series is "your Questions; Scripture's Answers", based on the book by Prof. John Brug. We'll start out with how God gave us His Bible, look at a few puzzling parts of the Bible, then go into adiaphora (if you don't know, you need to come), and a few other questions.

Wine and Word Bible Study – On Break until Jan. 15th

The Wine and Word Bible Study is **studying the book of EXODUS** and 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. Those who wish can bring a bottle of wine (or other drink of choice) 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.

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 a while when needed, please speak to Worship Elder Steven Douglas. If you have any questions or are not getting the emails for Sign-Up Genius, please email worship@trinityofwoodbridge.org. You can also scan this code to sign up:



Trinity's Little Free Library is one of our church's most effective tools for reaching out to our neighborhood. Many families in the area around Trinity regularly visit our LFL for books and shelf-stable food items, especially those who are experiencing food scarcity. Particularly useful are canned or boxed foods that do not require additional ingredients besides water to prepare. Books are always welcome, too, of course! If the shelves happen to be full, there is a donation bin for overflow items in the Fellowship Hall beside the door to the hallway.

Small Choir

Trinity's 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 Bev Ohlendorf know.

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 revgwong@gmail.com with a date, time, and place, and he will make it work.



Peace in the Midst of Stress

<https://wels.net/family-devotion/fd20251203/>

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:6-7

He was so nervous! Daniel and his family had just moved to a new town. He didn't know what his new classmates or teacher would be like. As he walked from the car where his mom dropped him off, he felt like everyone was staring at him. His heart was beating fast as he walked up to his new teacher.

But when she turned around and saw him, she smiled and gave him a high five. Daniel's nervousness started to disappear. His classmates were nice too! By the end of the school day, he even made a few new friends. He couldn't wait to go back the next day!

Change can be hard. Maybe you've had a big change like Daniel. How did it make you feel? Were you scared or nervous? That's normal! During this season before Christmas, called Advent, God wants to give us a really good change. He wants to turn our stress and fear into joy and happiness!

How does he do that? The apostle Paul wrote to his Christian friends in a town called Philippi: "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, present your requests to God."

That means when we feel scared, worried, or stressed—about school, friends, tests, or anything else—we can pray! And God is always listening. Paul also says, "the Lord is near." He is watching over us and caring for us.

We know this is true because about 2,000 years ago, Jesus was born. He became human to be near us. He came to save us! Whenever we mess up, make mistakes, or hurt others with our words or actions, Jesus died and rose again to bring us close to God. That's how Jesus gives us peace.

So, the next time you feel scared or nervous, remember Jesus. Talk to him in prayer, and rejoice that he loves you, listens to you, and will help you.

Questions to Consider

- What are some things that make you feel scared?
- How does Jesus help you feel better when you are scared or nervous?
- Make a list of a few things that make you nervous or worried.
- How can taking those things to Jesus in prayer help you?
- What is stressing you out right now?
- In what ways does Jesus give you peace? (*Hint: praying, trusting him, feeling loved, remembering he's always near.*)

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.