

Fourth Sunday in Advent

Welcome

In the Holy Gospel, Mary, already pregnant with Jesus, meets with her aunt Elizabeth. Elizabeth is pregnant with the one who will be called John the Baptist. Still in his mother's womb, John recognizes Jesus at the voice of His mother. Jesus' incarnation is so profound that it reaches even the unborn. Likewise, Jesus' resurrection is so powerful that it reaches even the dead. All human creatures, no matter in what stage of humanity, are loved by this Jesus. And He is coming soon.



The Advent Wreath contains a number of symbols. The evergreen wreath symbolizes eternal life in Christ. The candles are symbolic of Jesus Christ, the Light of the World. The act of lighting more candles each week anticipates the imminent coming of Christ.

Angel's Candle symbolizes Christ's final coming on Judgment Day when He will appear in glory with all His angels. – **Peace**

Holy Communion

We believe that Christ's body and blood are truly present in Holy Communion, and that we receive the forgiveness of sins along with the bread and wine in this Holy Meal. As a "Family Church," we invite those who share this understanding, and who desire God's forgiveness and strength, to join with us in receiving Holy Communion. (Gluten free wafers are available.) If you have any questions, please speak to our pastor at any time. All worshippers are asked to fill out the "Fellowship Pad" in the pew and pass it down. After all have signed, please leave the pad at the end of the pew to be picked up after worship. Please stand where indicated with a ❖. Thank you!

Trinity Lutheran Church and School

40 West Nicholal Street

Hicksville, New York 11801

Our Ministry Staff

Rev. John Hopkins, Senior Pastor
Henry DeVries, Minister of Music
Jennifer Forte, Acting Principal

Contact Information

Church Office 516-931-2225
School Office 516-931-2211
www.trinityhicksville.org
churchoffice@trinityhicksville.org

Deacons

Doug Brosky
Anthony Cavaliere
Betsy Lazarek
Peg Ruhs
Debbie Vergara
Lynn Waldeck

Mission Partners

Rev. James Roy,
Mission to Bangladesh
Alexandria Rappe,
Thailand

Mission Statement

*Trinity is a caring family where people gather to know, worship,
serve, and share Jesus.*

GREETING and ANNOUNCEMENTS

❖ **SHARING OF THE PEACE** *We encourage you to leave your pew and greet new people!*

+ *Please stand and face the cross during the procession to the altar* +

❖ **HYMN** "Oh, Come, Oh Come, Emmanuel" LBW 34

Oh come, Oh come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel.

Oh come, Oh come, great Lord of might,
Who to your tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times once gave the law
In cloud, and majesty, and awe. *Refrain*

Oh, come, strong Branch of Jesse, free,
Your own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell your people save
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave. *Refrain*

Oh, come, blest Dayspring come and cheer,
Our spirits by your advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight. *Refrain*

Oh, 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. *Refrain*

❖ **CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS**

P *In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*

C **Amen.** [Matthew 28:19b]

P *If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.*

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** [1 John 1:8-9]

+ *Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination* +

P *Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.*

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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 justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P *Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

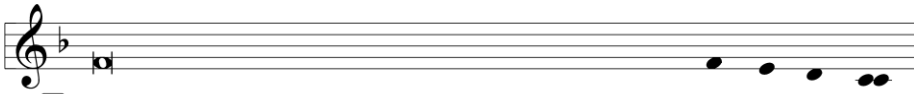
[John 1:12; Phil. 1:6]

C **Amen.**

❖ KYRIE



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

A *For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.*



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

A *For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.*



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

A *For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.*



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

A *Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.*



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

❖ PRAYER OF THE DAY

P *The Lord be with you.*

C **And also with you.**

P *Let us pray.*

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN CHRISTMAS PRESENTATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Micah 5:2-5a

But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.

And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth.

And he shall be their peace.

R *This is the Word of the Lord.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 80:1-7 (Spoken responsively by Lectern side, then **Pulpit** side)

Lectern: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,
you who lead Joseph like a flock.
You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.

Pulpit: **Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh, stir up your might
and come to save us!**

Lectern: Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved!

Pulpit: **O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's
prayers?**

Lectern: You have fed them with the bread of tears and given them tears to drink
in full measure.

Pulpit: **You make us an object of contention for our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh among themselves.**

Lectern: Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved!

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.**

EPISTLE

Hebrews 10:5-10

Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,

“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me;
in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure.

Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the
scroll of the book.’”

When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and
offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law),
then he added, “Behold, I have come to do your will.” He does away with the first in
order to establish the second. And by that will we have been sanctified through the
offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

R *This is the Word of the Lord.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

❖ **ALLELUIA VERSE** (Choir)

Alleluia! A virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel.
Alleluia!

❖ GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 1:39-45

P *The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.*



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.”

P *This is the Gospel of the Lord.*



C Praise to You, O Christ.

TRINITY CHOIR (9:00)

“Magnificat”

– Morley

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; for you, Lord, have looked with favor on your lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blest: you the almighty, have done great things for me, and holy is your Name. You have mercy on those who fear you from generation to generation. You have shown strength with your arm; you have scattered the proud in their conceit: casting down the mighty from their thrones, and lifting up the lowly. You have filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty. You have come to the aid of your servant Israel, to remember the promise of mercy, the promise made to our forebears, to Abraham and his children forever. 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.

SERMON

Pastor John Hopkins

❖ **HYMN OF THE DAY**

“The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came”

LSB 356

+ *Please turn and face your fellow members across the center aisle* +

❖ **APOSTLES’ CREED**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.

❖ PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A Lord, in your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

OFFERING + Please pass the Fellowship Pad at this time +

OFFERING VOLUNTARY (6:30) "Rorate Coeli" - Demessieux

TRINITY CHOIR (9:00) "Ave, Ave the Angel Sang" – Lau

O lowly maiden, O blessed woman, you have been chosen to bring us the king. Peace be with you, O fairest holy one, Mary, mother, child of God. *Ave, ave, ave Maria.* [Hail, Mary.] *Ave, ave the angel sang.* Fair one so gentle, filled with the Spirit, you will bear Jesus, the savior for all. Don't be afraid now, God's love surrounds you, Mary, mother, child of God. *Ave, ave...* What will you call him, O lovely maiden? Rulers and nations will bow at his name. Let all creation give thanks for the holy one: Jesus, Savior, child of God. *Ave, ave...*

❖ **OFFERTORY** *What Shall I Render*

C What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac - ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-

va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my

vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo - ple, in the

courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je-ru - sa - lem.

❖ PREFACE

P *The Lord be with you.*

C And al-so 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 Him thanks and praise.

P *It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:*



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of
 pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your
 glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is He who comes in the name
 of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

❖ **THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

❖ **PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST**


P *As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.*

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

❖ **LORD'S PRAYER**

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.

❖ **AGNUS DEI** *Lamb of God*



C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;

have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
 sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of
 God, You take a-way the sin of the world;
 grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

LSB 361

❖ NUNC DIMITTIS *Song of Simeon*

Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful-
 filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have pre-
 pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -
 veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el.
 Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

❖ **CLOSING PRAYER**

A *Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

C **Amen.**

❖ **BENEDICTION**

P *The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.*



A - men

+ *Please stand and face the cross during the recession from the altar.* +

❖ **HYMN**

"My Soul Rejoices"

LSB 933

❖ **DISMISSAL**

A *Go in peace. Serve the Lord.*

C **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

"Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel"

- Ore