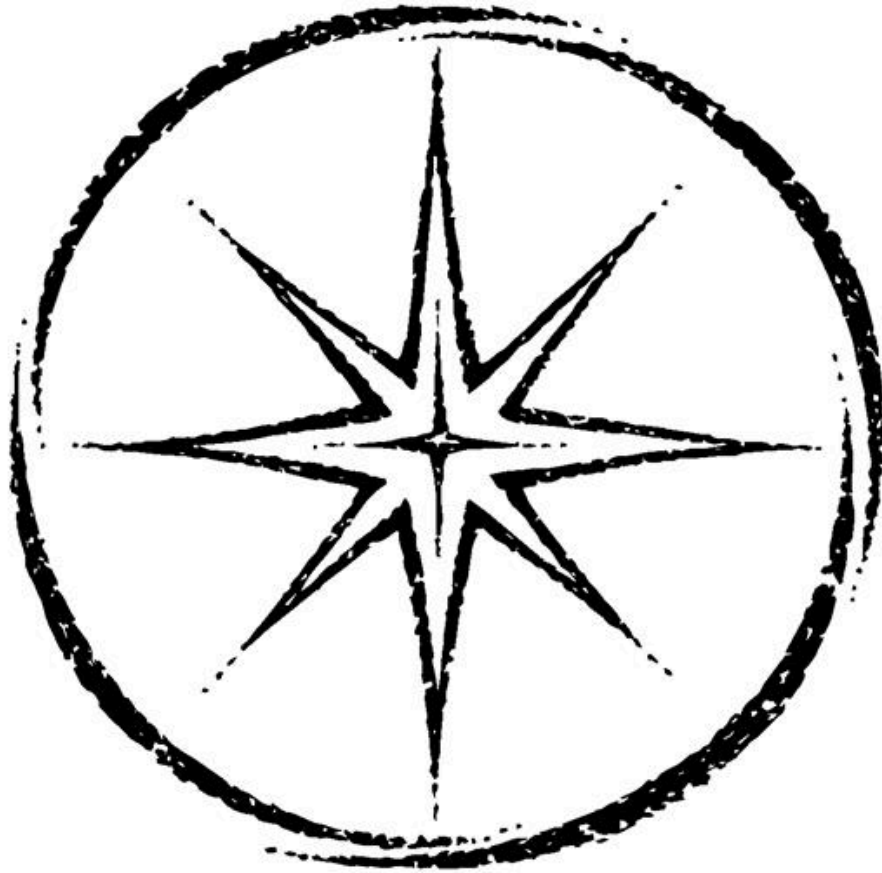


Holy Trinity Lutheran Church and Lutheran Campus Ministry

300 E. Rosemary St., Chapel Hill, NC
919-942-2678 | holytrinitychapelhill.org



Epiphany

January 4, 2026

8:30am – Livestream & In-person

11am – In-person

Holy Trinity is “Mask-Friendly” for all in-person activities.

Whichever your preference regarding mask usage, you are welcome here.

We celebrate an open table for Holy Communion. Please see the back page for more information.

Please note that our 8:30am service is Livestreamed and broadcast on our YouTube channel.

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church and Lutheran Campus Ministries is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Eno, Lumbee, Shakori, Skaruhreh/Tuscarora peoples, and we acknowledge their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have called and continue to call this land their home.

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty Savior,
Prince of Peace.

Amen.

Trusting in God's steadfast love and faithfulness,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Reconciling God,
**we yearn for your presence to transform
our grief, pain, and despair.**
**We confess that we have not always prepared
room in our hearts for your love;
we have not always recognized
your presence among us;
we have not always embraced your message of peace.**
**We cry out, weary with the burdens of violence,
oppression, and fear.**
**We confess our failure to make room
for those seeking refuge;
our participation in violent systems
that harm your innocent ones;
our reluctance to embody your good news.**
**Be born in us today
and teach us to sing the joyful song of your salvation.**
Amen.

God's grace upon grace flows over you.
☩ Christ's presence redeems the whole creation.
Your sins are forgiven. Let the earth rejoice and be glad!
Amen.

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
 2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,
 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;
 4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,

once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
 God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.
 seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.
 ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain

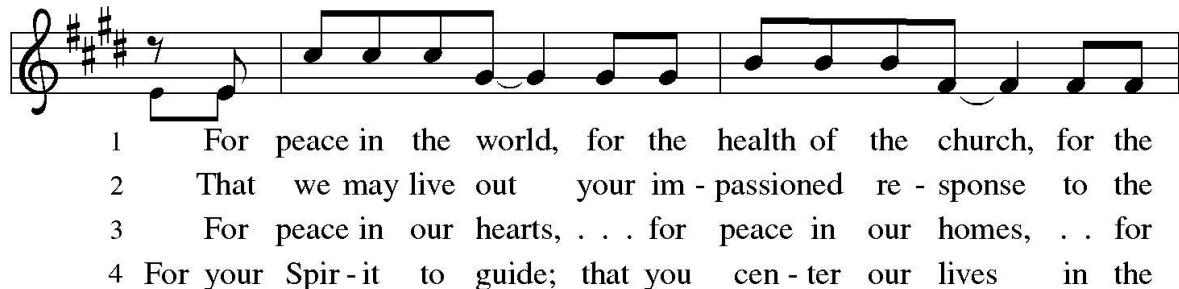
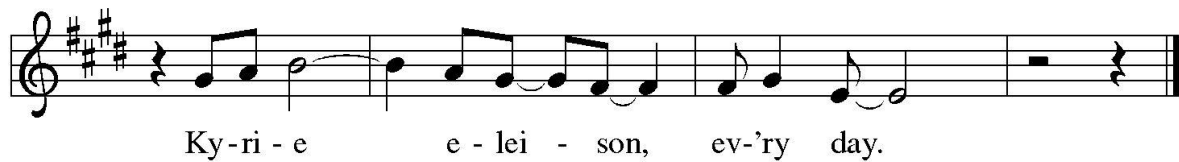
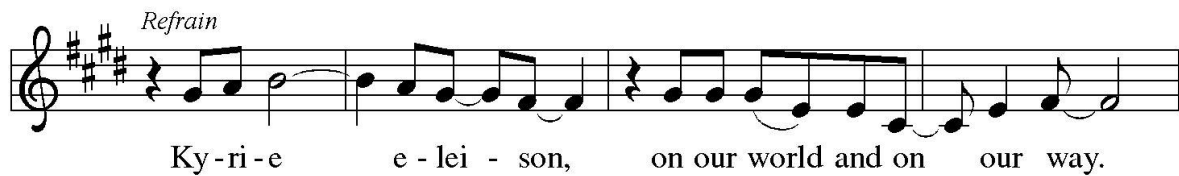
Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt., sts. 1–3; *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857, st. 4
 Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

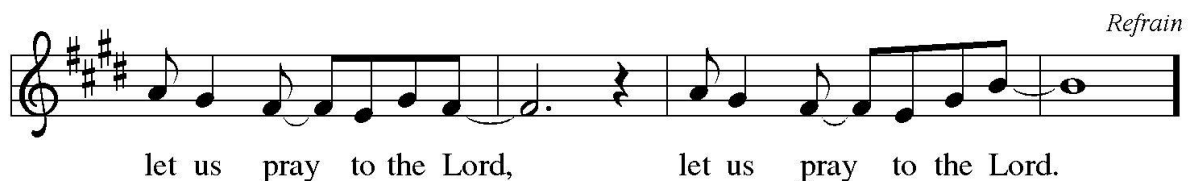
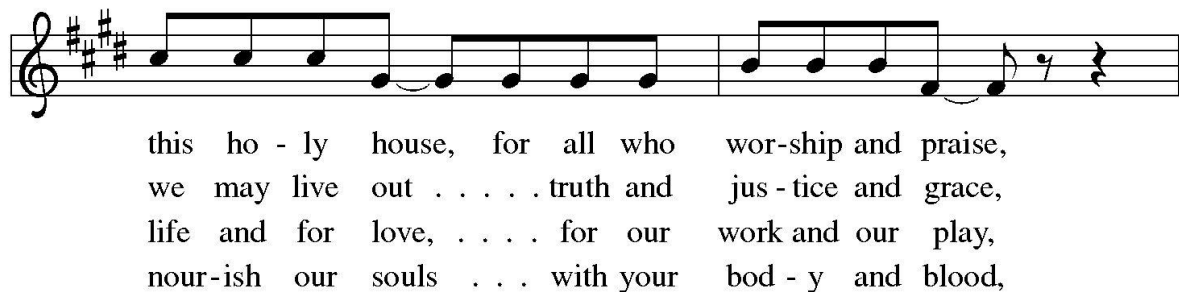
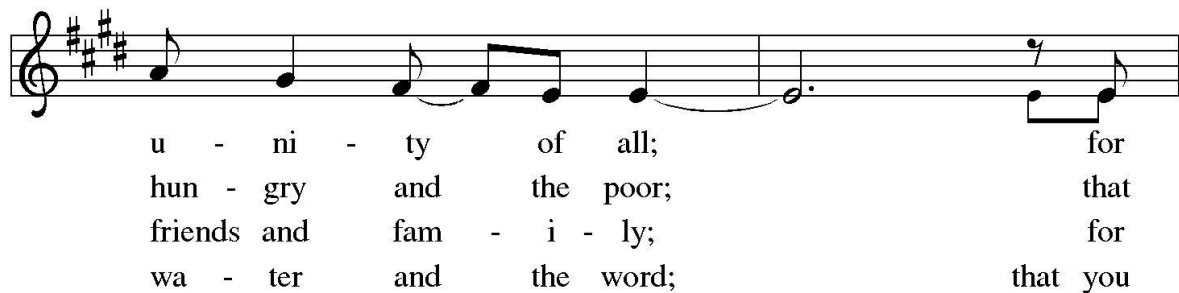
And also with you.



2 That we may live out your im-passioned re-sponse to the

3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . . for

4 For your Spir-it to guide; that you cen-ter our lives in the



PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Isaiah 60:1-6

A reading from Isaiah.

¹ Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

² For darkness shall cover the earth
and thick darkness the peoples,
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.

³ Nations shall come to your light
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

⁴ Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together; they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried in their nurses' arms.

⁵ Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you;
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

⁶ A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense
and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

¹Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to a king's son.

²**May he judge your people with righteousness
and your poor with justice.**

³May the mountains yield prosperity for the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.

⁴**May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,
give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor.**

⁵May he live while the sun endures
and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.

⁶**May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass,
like showers that water the earth.**

⁷In his days may righteousness flourish
and peace abound, until the moon is no more.

¹⁰**May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles render him tribute;
may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts.**

¹¹May all kings fall down before him,
all nations give him service.

¹²**For he delivers the needy when they call,
the poor and those who have no helper.**

¹³He has pity on the weak and the needy
and saves the lives of the needy.

¹⁴**From oppression and violence he redeems their life,
and precious is their blood in his sight.**

SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:1-12

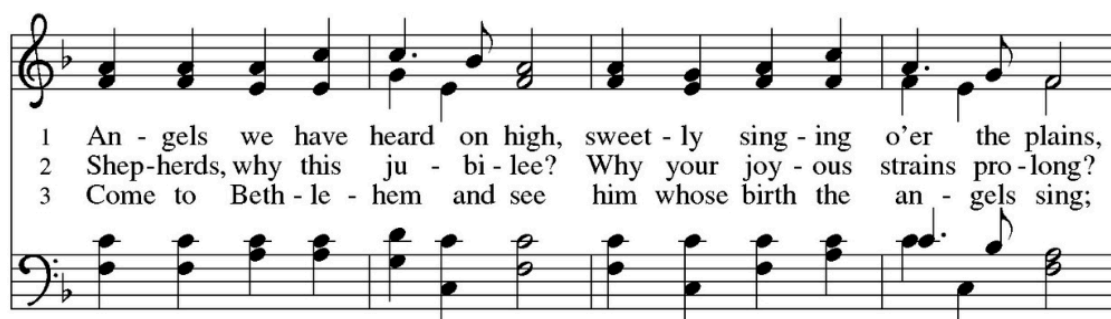
A reading from Ephesians.

¹This is the reason that I, Paul, am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you gentiles, ²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶that is, the gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

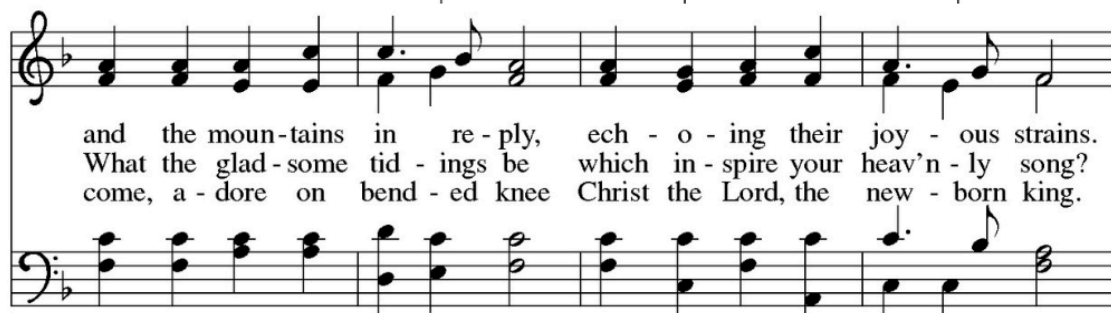
⁷Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, ¹⁰so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Verse 1



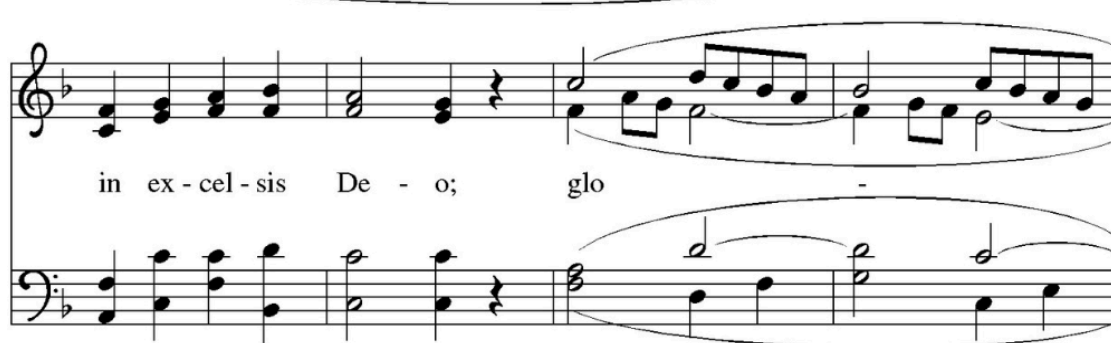
1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.



Refrain
Glo - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo -



- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah,
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.' "

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Will Rose

1. As the Ma - gi scanned the heav - ens look - ing
 2. As the Ma - gi made their jour - ney though their
 3. As the Ma - gi sought out wis - dom in a
 4. As the Ma - gi found their Sav - ior in a

for a cos - mic sign, give us faith to search cre -
 end re - mained un - clear, guide us down the un - known
 strange and for - eign land, lead us out be - yond our
 help - less ba - by's face, give us eyes to see your

a - tion for a glimpse of truth di - vine.
 high - ways, choos - ing won - der o - ver fear.
 com - fort in our quest to un - der - stand.
 glo - ry in the most un - like - ly place.

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APOSTLES CREED

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

PEACE

The peace of Christ- the light of the world- be with you always. **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEAL



OFFERING SONG

Bright Star, Where Are You Leading



1. Bright star, where are you lead - ing? What waits be -
2. Bright shines the way of jus - tice, bright shines the
3. Though clouds ob - scure our vi - sion, and ty - rants



neath your light? All oth - er lights ex - ceed - ing, you
way of love, bright shines the way of kind - ness, like
blur our sight; when ha - tred and di - vi - sion would



guide us through the night. Through shad - ows, still we
stars that shine a - bove. Yet, less - er lights still
dare to dim your light, your hope, a bea - con



fol - low; you call us, come what may. Though Her - od's
woo us, and from the path we stray. Though shad - ows
bril - liant, still shines a - bove the fray. God, make our



words are hol - low, you show an - oth - er way.
would un - do us, you show an - oth - er way.
hearts re - sil - ient, to fol - low in your way.

OFFERING PRAYER

God of glory,
great are your wonders among us
and many are the blessings you bestow.
Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world,
that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace,
through Christ our Savior.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh
you have opened the eyes of faith
to a new and radiant vision of your glory,
that, beholding the God made visible,
we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

The musical score is written for a two-part setting in G major, 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of staves. The first system is labeled 'Refrain' and features a treble staff with a melodic line and a bass staff with a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics 'Glo - ri - a' are placed below the staves. The second system continues the melody and accompaniment with the lyrics 'in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo -'. The third system concludes the piece with the lyrics 'ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.' The music is characterized by its simple, hymn-like quality, with clear phrasing and a steady rhythm.

Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864
Music: GLORIA, French carol; arr. Edward S. Barnes, 1887–1958

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us. Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light.
All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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 forever. Amen.**

COMMUNION

God is now in flesh appearing.

Come to the feast of joy!

Thanks be to God.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on

us, — have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world,

grant — us peace, — grant — us peace.

Contributors: Carroll T Andrews © 1966, GIA Publications, Inc.

COMMUNION HYMN

The First Noel

ELW #300

1 The first No-el the an-gel did say was to
2 They look-ed up and saw . . a star shin-ing
3 And by the light of that . . same star three . .
4 This star drew near to the . . north-west, o'er . .
5 Then en-tered in those wise . . men three, full . .

cer-tain poor shep-herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
 in . . . the east . . . be-yond . . . them far; and to the
 wise . . . men came . . . from coun-try far; to seek for a
 Beth-le-hem . . . it took . . . its rest; and there it
 rev-'rent-ly . . . up-on . . . their knee, and of-fered

they lay, keep-ing their sheep, on a cold win-ter's
 earth it gave . . . great light, and . . . so it con-
 king was their . . . in-tent, and to fol-low the
 did both stop . . . and stay right . . . o-ver the
 there in his . . . pres-ence their . . . gold, . . . and

Refrain

night that was so deep.
 tin-ued both day and night.
 star wher-ev-er it went. No-el, No-el, No-
 place where Je-sus lay.
 myrrh, and frank-in-cense.

el, No-el! Born is the King of Is-ra-el.

Text: English traditional
 Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, English traditional; arr. John Stainer, 1840–1901

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Incarnate God, you are among us at this table.
May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts
the mystery of your presence.
Move us to discover the wonders of your love
in the everyday moments of our lives,
through Christ born in us.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

The triune God,
glorious Mystery,
holy Incarnate One,
abiding Comforter,
✠ bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy.

Amen.

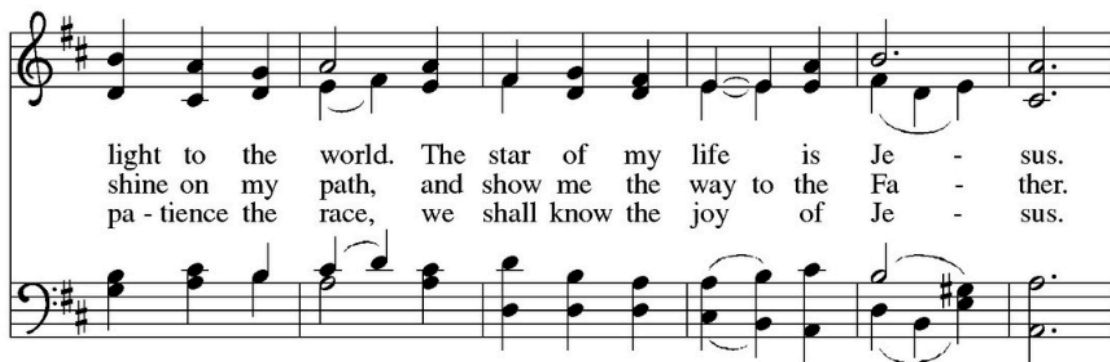
SENDING HYMN

I Want to Walk As a Child of the Light

ELW #815

1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to

fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous - ness,
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934
Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson
Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration.

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DISMISSAL

Glory to God in the highest!

And peace to God's people on earth!

Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace.

Thanks be to God.

Thank you for worshiping with us today!

The Altar Flowers for today's worship service have been given by Marge Freiman in memory of Don Herb and by Nadine Oelke in memory of my sister, Laurie, who passed away 25 years ago on Jan. 3rd. Your children, Abby and Cody, and grandson, Chase, continue your legacy impressively. Miss you dear, sis!

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If you see a blank below, it means we don't have anyone currently signed up for that role! Please consider it an invitation if you'd be willing to serve.

THIS SUNDAY, JANUARY 4th:

The Altar Guild and Communion Assistants are Karin and David Pfennig (8:30) and Ed and Kat Collins (11).

The usher is Susan Bales (11).

The Assisting Ministers are _____ (8:30) and _____ (11).

The lectors are Nathan Penny (8:30) and Frank Taylor (11).

NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 11th:

The Altar Guild and Communion Assistants are Anna Chao and Barry Bayus (8:30) and Andrea Narbut (11).

The usher is Craig Carbrey (11).

The Assisting Ministers are _____ (8:30) and _____ (11).

The lectors are Bethany Dieringer (8:30) and James Barrett (11).

This Week's Anniversaries

This Week's Birthdays

January 4	William Arey	January 10	John Arey
	Ben Gottschalk		Halden Levin
January 7	Mikayla Karczewski	January 11	Jon Arnold
	Annika Narbut		Cam Enarson
January 8	Anna Bober		Brian Whitling
January 9	PJ Quirk		

Parish Pastor	Rev. William N. Rose III prwill@holytrinitychapelhill.org	(803) 237-6356
Campus Pastor	Rev. Katie Elkin Ziehr prkatie@holytrinitychapelhill.org	(704) 773-6557
Minister of Discipleship	Deacon Holly Shipley hshipley@holytrinitychapelhill.org	(859) 433-5102
Director of Worship and Music	Megan Mash mmash@holytrinitychapelhill.org	(816) 223-1953
Office Manager	Grace French htlc@holytrinitychapelhill.org	(919) 942-2678
Financial Records Assistant	Toni Lehman	(919) 942-2678
Pastor Emeritus in Chaplaincy	Rev. Claude Deal	
Ministry Center & Mailing Address	300 E. Rosemary Street, Chapel Hill, NC 27514	
Worship Center	227 E. Rosemary Street, Chapel Hill, NC 27514	
	Office: (919) 942-2678	
Office Hours	Monday – Thursday, 9:00am – 3:00pm	
	Friday 9:00am- 1:00pm	

In case of emergency, please call either Pastor directly.
www.holytrinitychapelhill.org
Instagram: @unc_lcm @htlc_youth @holytrinitychapelhill
Facebook: Holy Trinity Lutheran – Chapel Hill
YouTube: Holy Trinity Chapel Hill

Welcome to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church and Lutheran Campus Ministry!

We are so glad you chose to worship with us, and we hope you experience the love and grace of God in our midst. Please fill out the “Worship Record Sheet” to record your attendance and explore ways to engage with our community of faith by using the QR code or paper sheet. Please sign up for our weekly Email Newsletter by visiting our website at www.holytrinitychapelhill.org, and subscribe to our YouTube channel at “Holy Trinity Chapel Hill”. Let us know if you have any prayer requests and how we can support you in your faith journey, either by talking to a Pastor or a Stephen Minister.



Reconciling In Christ

Jesus reached across all boundaries to make God’s love known, and in our baptismal covenant we are called to “serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth (ELW pg. 236).” As a Reconciling In Christ church, we at Holy Trinity welcome people of every age and ability, race, culture, religion, class, marital status, gender identity, and sexual orientation.

Children and Worship

We welcome children in worship and invite them to participate throughout the service. Children are invited to check out our Exploration Station in the Narthex and fill up a Busy Bag for activities during worship. If your child needs some time away from the service, there is a “Cry Room” (glass room near the Sanctuary, towards the Rosemary Street entrance) that’s staffed during the academic year. The service is able to be heard through speakers in the Cry Room. There is also a Nursery room in the back hallway (behind the organ) where children can play with parental supervision.

Holy Communion

At the table of our Lord Jesus Christ, God nourishes faith, forgives sin, and calls us to be witnesses to the Gospel. Believing in the real presence of Christ, HTLC practices Eucharistic hospitality: The Risen Christ welcomes all, therefore all are welcome to commune here. Receive the bread first, then the individual glasses containing (red) wine or (white) apple juice. Allergen-free communion wafers are available at the station in front of the altar. Those desiring not to commune may fold their hands to receive a blessing. Please let an usher or pastor know if you need communion brought to you at your seat.

Offering

In response to God’s unconditional love, we offer “what God has first given us; ourselves, our time and our possessions... in feeding the world with God’s love (ELW pg. 107).”

There are many ways to give at Holy Trinity: online through our **website**, **mailing in** your offering, placing your offering in our **offering plates** in our Worship Center, automatic **bank withdraws**, through the **QR code** in this worship bulletin, **text to give** at (833) 309-0136, or by **Venmo**, our handle is **@htlclcm** (Charity - Holy Trinity Lutheran Church). All contributions via text or Venmo will go to the HTLC general budget fund. Thank You!

Lutheran Campus Ministry at Holy Trinity

LCM is a community where ALL are welcome. We seek to accompany students as they encounter increased complexities in life, faith, relationships, and academics here at UNC. If you are (or you know) a student who is interested in getting connected with Campus Ministry, please get in touch with Pastor Katie by emailing her directly, or by using the QR code above to fill out the Worship Record Sheet. Mark “student” and/or “grad student,” leave an email/phone number, and Pastor Katie will reach out!