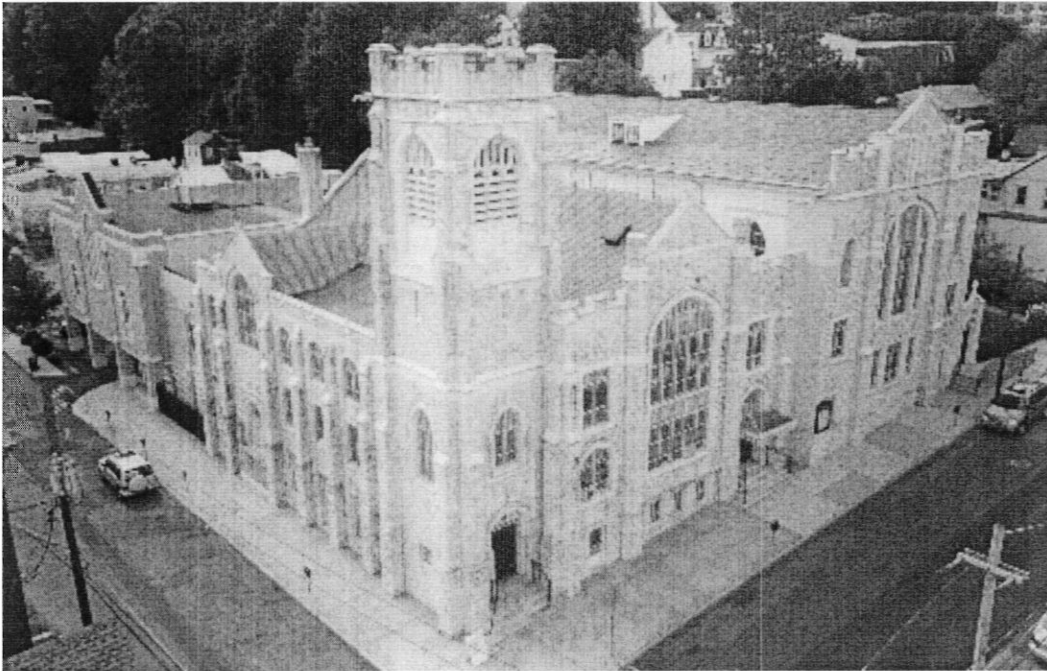


Trinity Lutheran Church
300 West Arch Street, Pottsville, PA 17901
Phone : (570) 622-9910 Fax: (570) 622-7451
Email : tlccares@tlcpottsville.onmicrosoft.com

Church Office Hours:
Monday –Thursday: 9-3
Friday: 9-1
Saturday & Sunday: Closed



3rd Week of Advent
December 16-17, 2023

Worship can be viewed LIVE Sundays at 9:30 am
www.trinitypottsville.com

Or we invite you to listen to our worship service on Sunday mornings at
11:00 am to “THE CONNECTING LINK” on the radio stations:
WPPA 1360 AM OR 105.9 FM

Confession

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

Pastor : God of all mercy and consolation,
come to the help of your people,
turning us from our sin
to live for you alone.
Give us the power of your Holy Spirit
that we may confess our sin,
receive your forgiveness,
and grow into the fullness,
of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Congregation: Amen.

Pastor : Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Pastor : Most merciful God,
**Congregation: we confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.
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.
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.**

Pastor : In the mercy of almighty God,
 Jesus Christ was given to die for us,
 and for his sake
 God forgives us all our sins.
 By his authority,
 I therefore declare to you
 the entire forgiveness of all your sins,
 in the name of the Father,
 and of the Son,
 and the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: **Amen.**

Prelude: Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Entrance hymn: #248 People, Look East

Robert W. Thygerson

(next page)

People, Look East

1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing
 2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is
 3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the
 4 An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new

of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,
 plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,
 bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,
 life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming

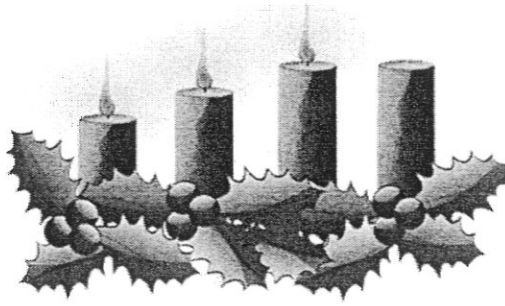
trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look
 that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look
 bright as the sun and to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look
 with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look

east, and sing to - day— Love, the Guest, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Star, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965

Music: French carol; arr. Barry Rose, b. 1934

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Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy
WEEK 3: December 16-17

Reader 1: When God's people were surrounded by hardship, suffering, and grief, Isaiah proclaimed,

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me; he has
sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to
bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty
to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to
proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the
day of vengeance of our God; to Zion—to give
them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of
gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of
praise instead of a faint spirit.

Reader 2: We come today as people who are also surrounded by suffering and grief. And yet, the Spirit hovers among us, tending and anointing, inspiring freedom where there is captivity, declaring blessing in places the world has cursed, and igniting fierce joy where mourning and heartache prevail.

Congregation: We wait as people who experience hardship and pain, yet we are called to witness to the persistent joy that sustains our life as God's people.

Reader 1: We light these candles as signs of our shocking hope, just peace, and fierce joy. May our lives shine with the fierce, tenacious joy of the Light who lives in our hearts as we wait and work for the coming of God's kin-dom on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

Three candles on the Advent wreath are lit.

Hymn-#240 Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah (Stanza 1,2&3))

**1.Light one candle to watch for Messiah:
let the light banish darkness.**

He shall bring salvation to Israel,
God fulfills the promise.

**2.Light two candles to watch for Messiah:
let the light banish darkness.**

He shall feed the flock like a shepherd,
gently lead them homeward.

**3.Light three candles to watch for Messiah:
let the light banish darkness.**

Lift your heads and lift high the gateway for
the King of glory.



Today's Readings

Third Sunday of Advent
December 17, 2023

Prayer of the Day

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the words of your prophets, that, anointed by your Spirit, we may testify to your light; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading

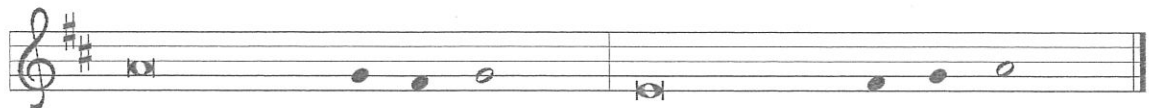
Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
because the LORD has
anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the
oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;
²to proclaim the year of the
LORD's favor,
and the day of vengeance of
our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
³to provide for those who mourn
in Zion—
to give them a garland instead
of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a
faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD, to display
his glory.
⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins,
they shall raise up the former
devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.

⁸For I the LORD love justice,
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;
I will faithfully give them their
recompense,
and I will make an everlasting
covenant with them.
⁹Their descendants shall be known
among the nations,
and their offspring among the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge
that they are a people whom the LORD
has blessed.
¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments
of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe
of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with
a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her
jewels.
¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in
it to spring up,
so the Lord God will cause righteousness
and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

Psalm

Psalm 126; tone 6



When the LORD restored
the for-¹ tunes of Zion,
then were we
like ¹ those who dream.

²Then was our mouth
filled with laughter,
and our tongue with ¹ shouts of joy.

continued

Then they said among the nations,
“The LORD has done
great ¹ things for them.”
³The LORD has done great ¹ things for us,
and we are ¹ glad indeed.
⁴Restore our for- ¹ tunes, O LORD,
like the watercourses ¹ of the Negeb.

⁵Those who ¹ sowed with tears
will reap with ¹ songs of joy.
⁶Those who go out weeping,
carry- ¹ ing the seed,
will come again with joy,
shoulder- ¹ ing their sheaves.

or Luke 1:46b-55 [not printed]

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing,
¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for
this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for
you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not
despise the words of prophets, ²¹but test
everything; hold fast to what is good; ²²ab-
stain from every form of evil.

²³May the God of peace himself sanc-
tify you entirely; and may your spirit and
soul and body be kept sound and blame-
less at the coming of our Lord Jesus
Christ. ²⁴The one who calls you is faithful,
and he will do this.

Gospel

John 1:6-8, 19-28

There was a man sent from God, whose
name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to
testify to the light, so that all might be-
lieve through him. ⁸He himself was not
the light, but he came to testify to the
light.

¹⁹This is the testimony given by John
when the Jews sent priests and Levites
from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are
you?” ²⁰He confessed and did not deny
it, but confessed, “I am not the Messiah.”
²¹And they asked him, “What then? Are
you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are
you the prophet?” He answered, “No.”
²²Then they said to him, “Who are you?
Let us have an answer for those who sent

us. What do you say about yourself?”

²³He said,

“I am the voice of one crying out in
the wilderness,

‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’”
as the prophet Isaiah said.

²⁴Now they had been sent from the
Pharisees. ²⁵They asked him, “Why then
are you baptizing if you are neither the
Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?”
²⁶John answered them, “I baptize with
water. Among you stands one whom you
do not know, ²⁷the one who is coming
after me; I am not worthy to untie the
thong of his sandal.” ²⁸This took place
in Bethany across the Jordan where John
was baptizing.

TODAY'S READINGS December 17, 2023

Volume 55, Number 1

Next Sunday's Readings: Fourth Sunday of Advent 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16; Luke 1:46b-55 or Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26; Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38 **OR Nativity of Our Lord, Christmas Eve** Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14 [15-20].

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3 of 14
Tracks 1 and 2

Greeting

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

Congregation: **And also with you.**

Litany:

Worship Assistant: To those we love who are far from us; we pray, O Lord,

Congregation **Hear our prayers and come.**

Worship Assistant: To all who are suffering; we pray, O Lord,

Congregation **Hear our prayers and come.**

Worship Assistant: To those who are traveling and those preparing for the arrival of
children; we pray, O Lord,

Congregation **Hear our prayers and come.**

Worship Assistant: To those whose hearts are untouched by the joy of this season;
we pray, O Lord,

Congregation **Hear our prayers and come.**

Worship Assistant: To those whom we hurt or ignored; we pray O Lord,

Congregation **Hear our prayers and come.**

Worship Assistant: Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears
to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may
bring forth the fruits of repentance; reigns with you and the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Congregation **Amen.**

Lighting of the Advent Wreath Liturgy

(Insert)

Saturday, December 16

Sunday, December 11

Reader 1: Reilly Trezise

Reader 2: Reagan Trezise

Candle lighter: Eric Trezise

Congregation: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia, alleluia.

Pastor: The holy gospel according to John the 1st Chapter

Congregation: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 1:6-8,19-28

Today's Readings Insert

Pastor: The gospel of our Lord.

Congregation: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

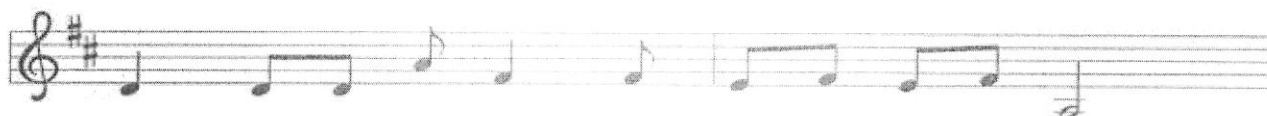
Pastor Chris

Hymn of the Day: #266 All Earth Is Hopeful

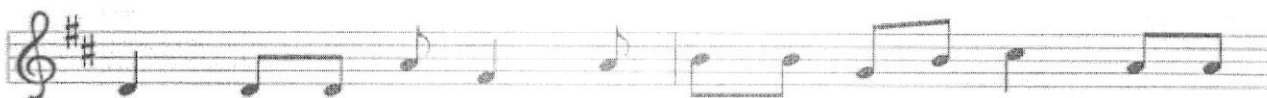
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All Earth Is Hopeful

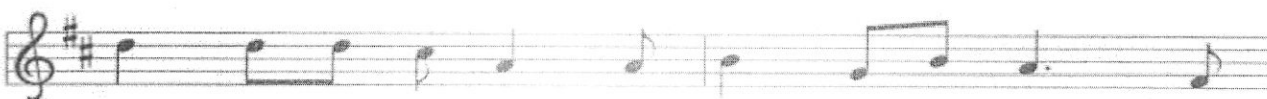
Toda la tierra



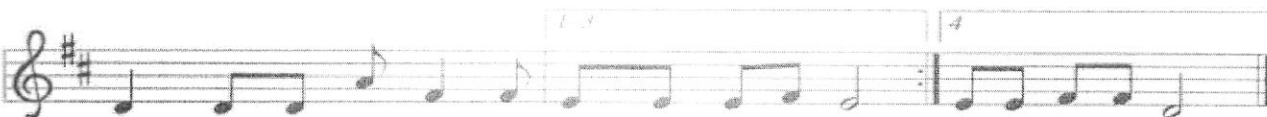
To - da la tie - rra es - pe - ra al Sal - va - dor
 1 All earth is hope - ful, the Sav - ior comes at last!
 2 Peo - ple of Is - rael, you heard the proph - et tell;
 3 Moun - tains and val - leys will have to be pre - pared;
 4 We first saw Je - sus a ba - by in a crib.



y el sur - co_a - bier - to, la ob - ra del Se - ñor; es el
 Fur - rows lie o - pen for God's cre - a - tive task; this, the
 "A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em - man - u - el"; she con -
 new high - ways o - pened, new pro - to - cols de - clared. Al - most
 This same Lord Je - sus to - day has come to live in our



mun - do que lu - cha por la li - ber - tad, re -
 la - bor of peo - ple who strug - gle to see how
 ceived him, "God with us," our broth - er, whose birth re -
 here! God is near - ing, in beau - ty and grace! All
 world; he is pres - ent, in neigh - bors we see our



cla - ma jus - ti - cia y bus - ca la ver - dad, dar - nos li - ber - tad.
 God's truth and jus - tice set ev - 'ry - bod - y free.
 stores hope and cour - age to chil - dren of this earth.
 clear ev - 'ry gate - way, in haste, come out in haste!
 Je - sus is with us, and ev - er sets us free.

- 2 *Dice el profeta al pueblo de Israel:*
"De madre virgen ya viene Emmanuel,"
será "Dios con nosotros," hermano será,
con él la esperanza al mundo volverá.
- 3 *Montes y valles habrá que preparar;*
nuevos caminos tenemos que trazar.
Él está ya muy cerca, venidlo a encontrar,
y todas las puertas abrid de par en par.
- 4 *En una cueva Jesús apareció,*
pero en el mundo está presente hoy.
Vive en nuestros hermanos, con ellos está;
y vuelve de nuevo a darnos libertad.

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.**

Offering

**Anthem: Hope, Peace, Joy and Love
 Senior Choir**

Joseph M Martin

Offertory Response: #185 Create in Me

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away
from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your
salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and
renew a right spirit within me.**

Prayer Hymn-#752 Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

**Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.**

Prayers

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Great Thanksgiving

**Pastor The Lord be with you.
Congregation:(sung) And also with you.**

**Pastor Lift up your hearts.
Congregation:(sung) We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Congregation:(sung)

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor

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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection open to us the way of everlasting life. 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:

Congregation:(sung)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Pastor

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.

Pastor

The Peace of the Lord be with you all.

Congregation:

And also with you.

Pastor

Greet one another with the peace of the Lord.

Hymns during communion:

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Grant us peace, grant us peace.**

Communion Hymn: #265 The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

ADVENT

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

265

1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
 2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,
 3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;
 4 Of her, Em - man - u - el. the Christ, was born

with wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:
 all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;
 "To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said,
 in Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,

"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,
 thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
 "My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."
 and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say:

most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."
 most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."
 Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy,
 "Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!

Text: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1814-1874
 Music: Basque carol; arr. C. Edgar Pettman, 1865-1941, and John Wickham
 Arr. © 1955, 1983 E.H. Freeman, Ltd. within Glenwood Music Corp.

GABRIEL'S MESSAGE
 1 10 10 12 10

Pastor:

May the Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ
Strengthen You and Keep You in His Grace. **Amen.**

Post Communion Canticle #204 Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise

**Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell ev'ryone what God has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and bear Christ's holy name.
Send us with your promises and lead your people forth in joy with
shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

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.**

Blessing

**Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Congregation: Amen.**

Dismissal

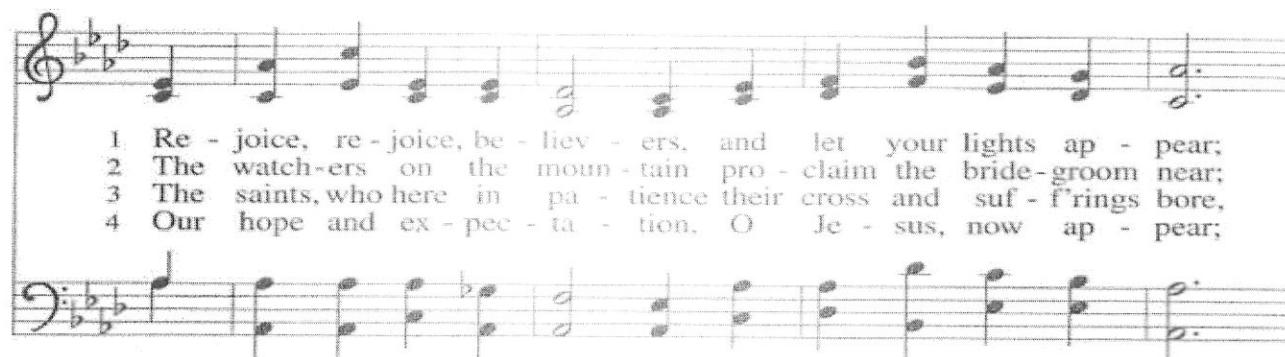
**Worship Assistant: Go in peace. To Love and Serve the Lord.
Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

Recessional Hymn: #244 Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

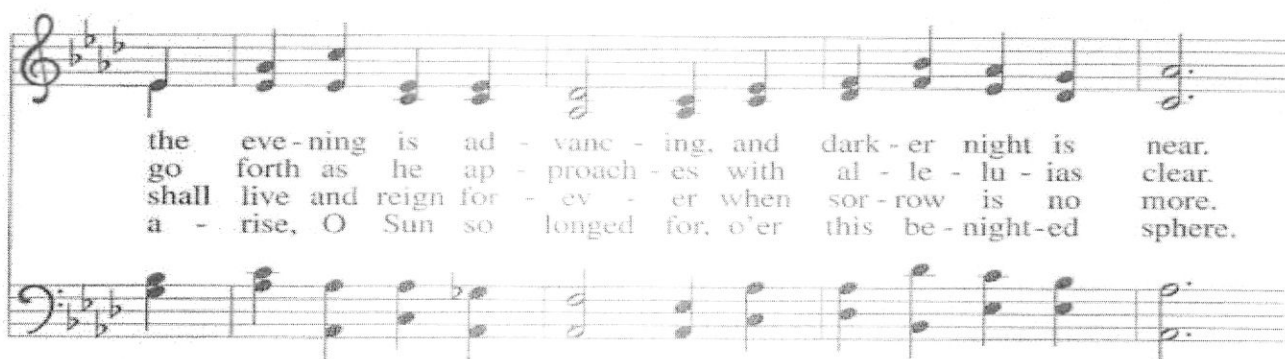
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Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

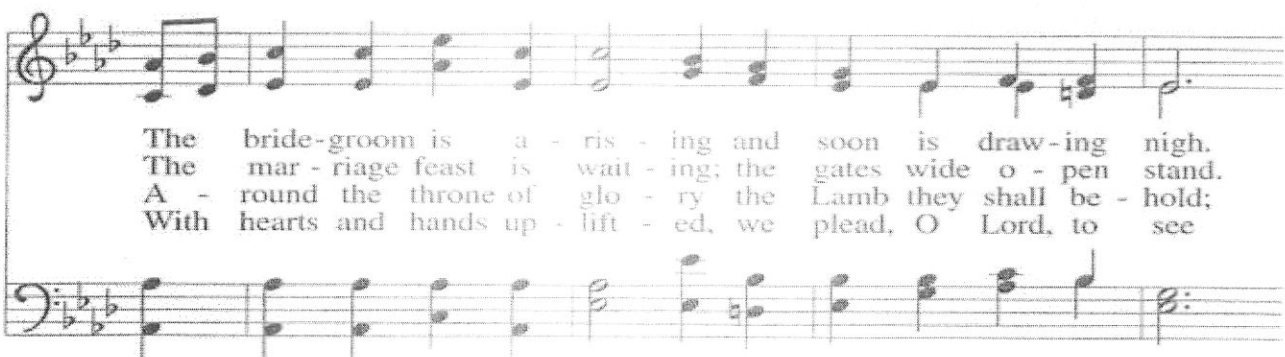
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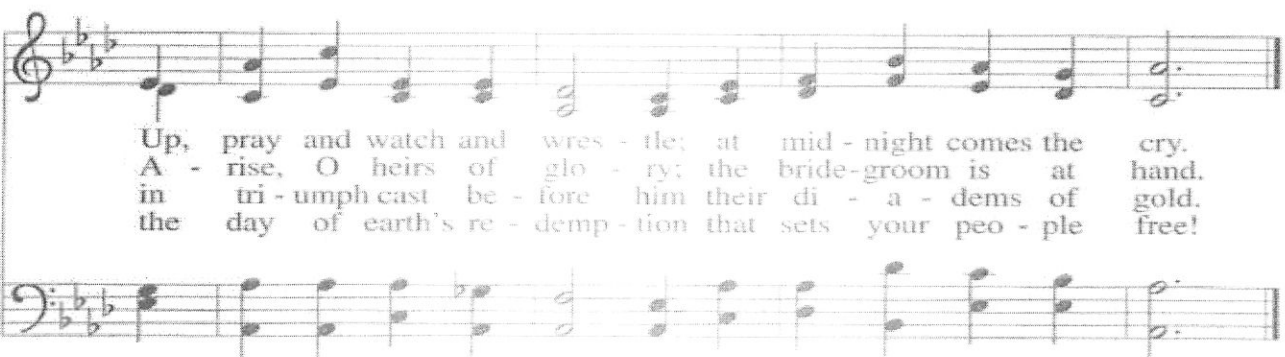
1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
 2 The watch-ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride-groom near;
 3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ring bore,
 4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
 go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.
 shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.
 a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night-ed sphere.



The bride-groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.
 The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.
 A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.
 A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride-groom is at hand.
 in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

*God be with you till we meet again, By His counsels guide uphold you,
With His sheep securely fold you, God be with you till we meet again.*

Organ Postlude

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Altar Flowers, Bulletins, and Digital Ministry are \$30.00 each; Radio Ministry is \$50.00 (Radio Ministry half-sponsorships are also available). Please contact the church office at 570-622-9910 to reserve your date.

Altar flowers provided by: *Forget-Me-Not florist.*

Many thanks to this week's sponsors:

Altar flowers are presented to the Glory of God and In memory of Jim Wire on his birthday, December 20 by wife, Carolyn and in Memory of Lorraine Spotts by Husband Jerry Spotts & David & Jeffrey and in memory of Mary Frantz and Ed Swalm on his birthday, December 18 by Rosalyn Frantz and in memory of William E. Howells by daughter, Aldajean and in memory of Lorraine H. Spotts & Darrin Spotts by Gerald L. Spotts & sons, David and Jefferey.

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Children's Bulletins are presented to the Glory of God and in memory of deceased class members, by Craft Class.

Radio Ministry is presented to the Glory of God and in memory of our parents, Andrew & Emma Greff and Elizabeth & Chester Corse by Chester & my wife, Norma Corse and in honor of our grandson, Michael David Newton on his 2nd birthday by grandparents, Dave & Gail Newton.

Digital Ministry is presented to the Glory of God and In honor of loved ones by friends of Trinity.

Prayer List: December 16-17, 2022

Members of Trinity with immediate concerns: Judi Barton, Brian Bohr, Rene Boylan, Pam Brennan, Ron Brennan, Doug Camodeca, Jodi Denning, Debbie Ebert, Gene Ebling, Joel Ebling, Sharon Fessler, Margaret Gretskey, Pat Haluska, Jarred Heckart, Melissa Heckart, Edward Helman, Arline Hufnagle, Megan Kimmel, Jodi Klein, Andrea Madara, Thelma Mansfield, Margie Mataka, Donald Moyer, Sr., Ray Moyer, Diane O'Leary-Hughes, Nancy Pauzer, Suzanne Rich, Don Roth, Ruth Russell, Ron Schaeffer, Peg Schappell, Kay Shaw, Jack Shuey, Margaret Snyder, Dorothy Thomas, Edna Uranko, Barbara Wagner, Helen Walasavage, Pat Wishousky, Karen Wood, Damon Yost

Members of Trinity with ongoing concerns: Ruth Bensinger, Sam Carroll, Barbara Conrad, Carole Coyle, Dennis Fredericks, Carolyn Gauntlett, Betsey Lord, Dennis Lord, Camie McGonigle, Adam Morrow, Chester Moyer, Marilyn Reed, Jill Schaeffer, Albert Schneider, Linda Seiwel, Cindy Seltzer, Sally Spotts, Colin Studlack, Jill Weaver, Brock Weber, Ellen Wesnoski, Kerry Willard, Ivan Willard, Mary Jane Wilson, Sissy Wilson, Haley Wiscount, Sadie Wiscount, Donna Wood

Shut-Ins: Merle Amos, Delight & Paul Ashembrier, Jeanette Augustine, Tom & Mickie Bair, Leah Brokhoff, Earlamay Downing, Marsha Ehlers, Mary Evans, Sandy Fessler, Helen Harvey, Robert Heffner, Dolores Hoffman, Richard & Carole Kline, Faye Krasinsky, Terry Pugh, Nancy Schriener, Carolyn Spiess, Ann Spotts, Frances Thomas, Carolyn Wire, Kathryn Wodack, Darlene Zeller

Nursing Home/Personal Care Residents: Yvonne Blankenhorn, Hope Fisher, Tom Fredericks, Louise Gradwell, Larry Haffey, Dianna Hutton, Mollie Katchur, Cheryl Kephart, Mary Leary, Shirley Morgan, Anna Stinner, Judy Thomas, Shawn Thomas

Military Personnel: Brett Allison, Jacob Barton, Jason Beach, Audrey Burke, Christopher & Savannah Butler, Tim Campbell, Elizabeth Chattin, Andrew Clancey, Ryan Devaney, Jeff and Katie Dittmar, Noah Elison, Brian and Joshua Fetterman, Joshua Fredericks, Kevin Gregory, Sean Grube, Seth Grube, Joshua Hager, Aaron Leshner, Edward Mady, Tom McMurtrie, Ryan Miller, Ashton Muncy, Allison Ney, John Nomland, Aaron Oswald, Eddie Padinski, Kevin Potts, Larry Reedy, Zachary Reichert, Michael and Stephen Reier, Steven Sleva, Nicholas Starner, Matthew Tobin, Jamie Watt

Family Members/Friends: Karen Alban, Michelle Ambrose, Brianne Barket, John Barnetsky, David Bechtel, Timothy Beissel, Olivia Bensinger, Charlette Bethea, Lauren Boorujy, Linda Borchardt, Ron Boris, Rose Brehony, Doug Broughton, Joan Buehner, Connie Burns, Shawn Care, Bill Causf, Irene Conway, Betty Coyle, Donna Dando, Hayden Daubert, Alice Davis, Eliana Denning, Justin Dicello, Joanie Eagan, Marilee Ebert, Gaylene Ebling, Margaret Ebling, Tracey Ebling, Scarlett Ecckers, Virginia Ehrich, Dale Felker, Kim Gerthoffer, Nancy Gullob, David Hallman, Maureen Hill, Vicki Jarvis, Warren Jefferson, Bill Jones, Lindsay Kastner, Barry Kellner, Cody and Kime Kimberlin, Kaylynn Klunk, Blayke Kopinetz, John Kruss, Butch Lasco, Phil Lasco, Kenneth Leister, Bernadette L. Lord, Sister Jo Magdalinski, Maria Masteller, Shawn Matz, Melissa Martin, Melissa L. Martin Lenny and Karen McHugh, Joe Matz, Joe McNulty, Sue Mengle, Alethia Meyer, Ariel Miller, Marie Minder, Alyssa Morissey, Vincent Murray, Pastor Peggy Sue Pfeffer, Kathy Pritchard, Jack & Dot Rebuck, Jerry Reed, Tina Robinson, Lisa Schaeffer, Sandy Schlemmer, Pastor Jim Seifert, Adam Selfridge, Aimee & Ethan Selfridge, Brian Shishlo, Joshua Sophy, Allen and Jack Spotts, Lindsay Spotts, Jessica L. Steward, Diane Sumoski, Jack Thomas, Dr. Mark Thomas, Graeme Turner, Charlie Wagner, Barry Ward, Glynn Ward, Emily Wetzell, Anne Schock Womack, Mike Zawaski

Those who mourn: The family and friends of Wayne Conahan, and Michael Kerver

STATEMENT OF CONGREGATIONAL MISSION

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Trinity Lutheran Church is a worshipping, learning, witnessing, and serving community of baptized Christians. It is a welcoming place where the Word is proclaimed and the Sacraments are celebrated according to the Gospel. As a community of believers, we challenge each other to respond to the call of our Lord to love and minister to persons at home and throughout the world.

We encourage each other to share our time, our talents, and gifts to further the mission of our Lord Jesus Christ. In these ways, we bear witness to the love we have first received from God through Jesus Christ.

Adopted by the Congregation

January 25, 1998

TRINITY'S STAFF AND E-MAIL CONTACT INFORMATION

Chris Rothharpt, Senior Pastor: crothharpt@tlcpottsville.onmicrosoft.com

Vicar Stephanie Roth: sroth@tlcpottsville.onmicrosoft.com

Janet Little, Administrative Assistant: jlittle@tlcpottsville.onmicrosoft.com

Danielle Crestuk, Administrative Assistant: dcrestuk@tlcpottsville.onmicrosoft.com

Michael Kiehner, Organist & Choir Director

Jim Honicker, Sexton

Robert Thomas, Church Council President

TRINITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Saturday, December 16	6:30pm-8:30pm	Live Nativity
Sunday, December 17	9:30am	Worship
	10:30am	Sunday School
	3:00pm-7:00pm	Eclipse Volleyball
Monday, December 18	6:30pm-8:30pm	Adult Volleyball
Tuesday, December 19	10:00am	Senior Exercise
	5:00pm-7:00pm	Special Olympics Floor Hockey
	7:00pm-9:00pm	Anthracite Attack Volleyball
Wednesday, December 20	6:30pm-8:30pm	Adult Volleyball
	7:00pm	Black Rock Round Table Meeting
Thursday, December 21	12:00pm	Advent Noonday Services
	5:00pm-7:00pm	Anthracite Attach Volleyball
	7:00pm-9:00pm	Eclipse Volleyball
Friday, December 22	10:00am	Seniors Exercise

<u>Date</u>	<u>Pastor/Vicar</u>	<u>Worship Assistant</u>	<u>Lector/Candle Lighter</u>
Saturday, Dec. 16			
Sunday, Dec 17		Debbie Sheehan	Reilly Trezise Reagan Trezise Eric Trezise

"THE CONNECTING LINK"

Sunday mornings, WPPA, 1360 AM at 11:00 a.m.

Trinity Lutheran Guest Account

Password: TrinityWIFI
(password is case sensitive)

TLC December 16 - December 17, 2023

YOUTH / CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

Some of our youth are planning to attend the 2024 ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans, LA

Please stay tuned for
events and activities planned for the upcoming months,
and thank you for supporting our youth!

Sunday School and Confirmation

Our Sunday-Funday fun has already begun, but we've got room for you!

If you are a youth in Pre-K through Grade 5, you are welcome to join us Sunday's following worship. We have lessons, crafts, silly songs, and more

Sunday School registration forms are available at the Usher's Station, card table in the lounge, and in the Sunday School room. If you have filled out a form please be sure to bring with it you. We encourage all kids and parents/ grandparents to join us for a fun-filled time!

Next Confirmation class is Sunday January 7th following worship.

Our lesson will be Promise: Joseph's Story

If you are new to Trinity, or would like to enroll your child/children in our confirmation or Sunday school programs please reach out to Pastor Chris via phone (570-622-9910) or email at crothharpt@tlcpottsville.onmicrosoft.com.

Looking forward to seeing everyone!!

Teachers and parents are urgently needed!

FROM THE DESK OF VICAR STEPHANIE



Jesus, Jammies & Joy

The second annual Jesus, Jammies and Joy pajama project is winding down, Many thanks to all who contributed children's pajamas of all sizes to bring smiles, giggles and a warm hug to children in need this Christmas.

We are in the process of sorting, sizing and counting pajamas. They will be distributed through Adopt a Child, Schuylkill Hope Center, Safe Berks and Mary's Shelter in the coming weeks in time for Christmas.



Prayer Group

A monthly prayer group is meeting the fourth Thursday at 1 pm and the second Tuesday at 11 am (after exercise group) in the large Sunday school room. Everyone is welcome to join us!



Prayer Shawl Ministry

A Prayer Shawl Ministry has been started to provide a gift of love and comfort to people in life transitions. Supplies for creating shawls including yarn, knitting needles and crochet hooks are available. We already have over 30 prayer shawls ready to be handed out.

If you know someone who could use prayers and the loving embrace of a shawl to help them navigate life's challenges, feel free to stop by our room off the main Sunday School room to select a shawl. Remember to sign the log so that we can pray for the shawl recipient.

Please direct any questions regarding these ministries to Vicar Stephanie.

SOCIAL MINISTRY NEWS

Red Cross Bloodmobile

There were 38 pints collected on a 27 pint goal or 141% of goal. What a phenomenal drive and great way to end 2023 at a point in time when blood levels available are at a critical low! Thank you all who assisted in anyway.

Getting that communication out is just so important!!

Our next scheduled drive is scheduled for Wednesday, February 7th 2024.

In Ian's Boots

Thank-you again to all who responded with donations of shoes for those in need served by In Ian's Boot!

Our shoe collection box will remain available for your donations of gently used boots or shoes for adults and children.

Let's continue to be good stewards of the abundance that God has provided us. Remember that through our donations to In Ian's Boots, we help to ensure that our most vulnerable neighbors have boots and shoes to wear!

Trinity Lutheran Church

JOIN US FOR

Christmas Eve
Candle Light Services with
Holy Communion

Sunday, Dec 24th

— 5:00pm and 7:30pm —

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE BY
PASTOR Chris Rothharpt
VICAR Stephanie Roth

WWW.TRINITYPOTTSVILLE.COM

UPCOMING GROUP MEETINGS AT TRINITY

FRIEDA HOH

No Meeting Scheduled for January

Any questions, contact Marie Weikel at (570) 449-6484

CIRCLE V

No meeting scheduled for January

*For more info, details or transportation contact Teresa Stoffregen at
(570) 622-7918*

Adult Volleyball

Anyone interested in joining adult volleyball on Monday's from
6:30pm– 8:30pm please contact Deb Miller at 570-622-4390



Memorials

Memorial Fund

In memory of Diane Smith by Mr. & Mrs. Ron Renninger

Elevator Fund

Donation from Frieda Hoh and Circle V

Digital Ministry

Donation from Frieda Hoh and Circle V