

Third Sunday of
ADVENT

December 17, 2023

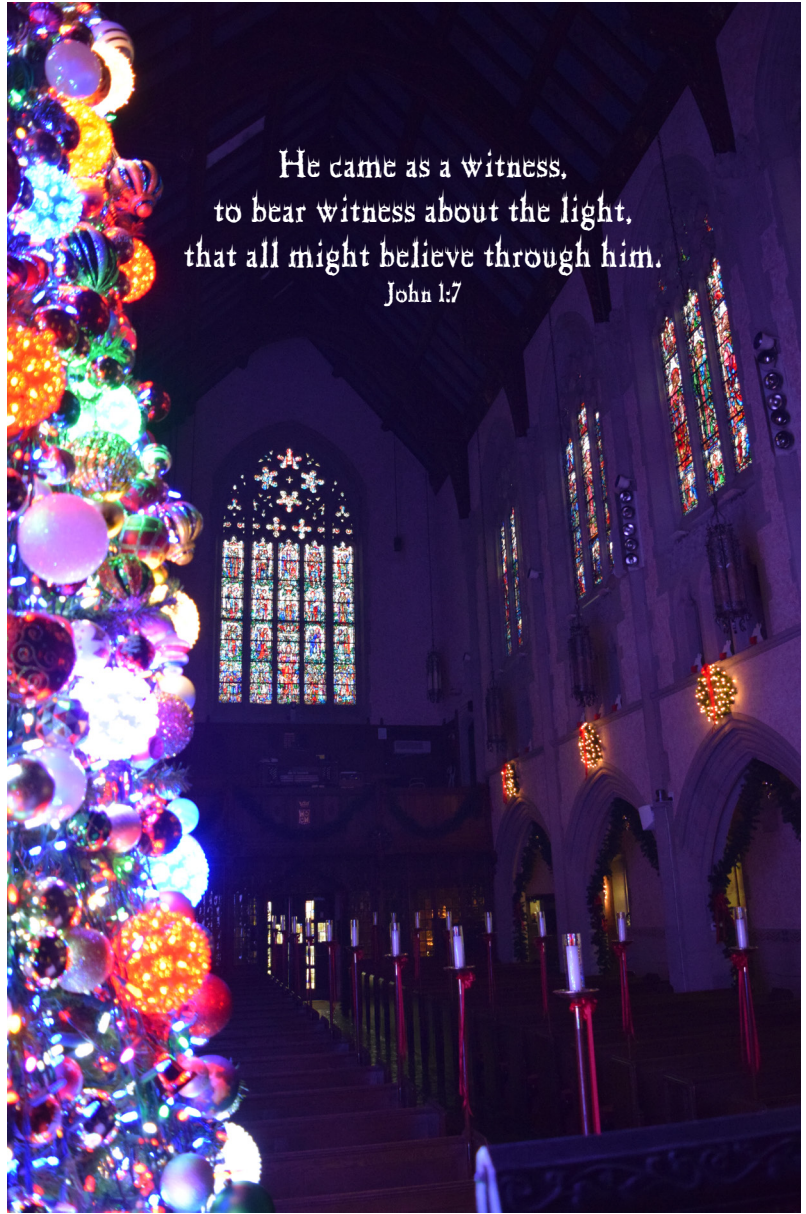


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He came as a witness,
to bear witness about the light,
that all might believe through him.
John 1:7



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Historic Trinity Lutheran Church

December 17, 2023

PRELUDE

“Good King Wenceslas”

Karl Osterland

Fanfare.

“Good King Wenceslas looked out . . .”

“Hither page and stand by me . . .”

“Bring me flesh and bring me wine . . .”

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“Prepare the Royal Highway”

LSB 343



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; The King of kings is near!
2 God's peo - ple, see Him com - ing: Your own e - ter - nal king!
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen To greet your prom - ised king!
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; It comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley A lev - el road ap - pear!
Palm branch - es strew be - fore Him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion Its trib - ute too should bring.
His rule is peace and free - dom And jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of Glo - ry Fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
All lands, bow down be - fore Him! All na - tions, now a - dore Him!
So let your praise be sound - ing For kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



Ho - san - na to the Lord, For He ful - fills God's Word!

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INVOCATION

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

People: ♪ Amen.

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION from LSB 366

Pastor: O God our Father, since You have set forth the way of life for us in Your beloved Son, we confess with shame our slowness to learn of Him, our failure to follow Him, and our reluctance to bear the cross. All you, beneath your heavy load, By care and guilt bent low...

People: **Forgive us for the poverty of our worship, our neglect of fellowship and of the Means of Grace, our hesitating witness for Christ, our evasion of responsibility in Your service, and our imperfect stewardship of Your gifts.**

Pastor: Who toil along a dreary way with painful steps and slow...

People: **Forgive us that so little of Your love has reached others through us, that we have been thoughtless in our judgments, hasty in condemnation, grudging in forgiveness, slow to seek reconciliation, and unwilling to help our neighbors as we ought. Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your steadfast love.**

Pastor: Look up, for golden is the hour, Come swiftly on the wing...

People: **The Prince was born to bring you peace; Of Him the angels sing.**

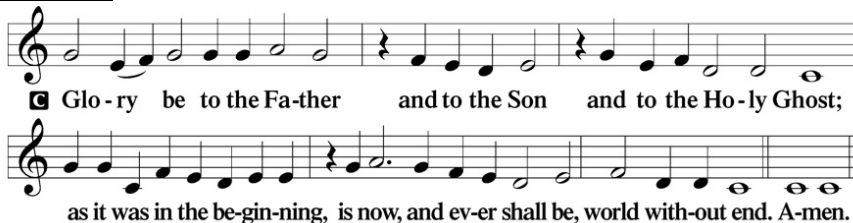
Pastor: Upon this your confession and by the command of our Lord, I, a called and ordained servant of Christ, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: ♪ Amen.

THE INTROIT *Psalm 85:8-9, 2-13; antiphon: Psalm 85:7*

Pastor/Choir: Show us Your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us Your salvation. Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for He will speak peace to His people, to His saints; but let them not turn back to folly. Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him, that glory may dwell in our land. Yes, the LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase. Righteousness will go before Him and make His footsteps a way.

THE GLORIA PATRI



Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

ADVENT KYRIE

The Kyrie Eleison ("Lord have mercy") for Advent is drawn from the familiar Christmas tune "Coventry Carol", first written in 1534 at the time of Luther. The Hymn of Praise is traditionally removed during the penitential seasons of Advent and Lent.



O Je- sus Christ, have mer- cy Lord. Grant us Thy ho - ly peace. Have



mer - cy Lord, Im - man - u - el. Be Thou our "God with us".

THE SALUTATION 2 Timothy 4:22

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People:



■ And with thy spir - it.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: O Lord, You lead us to see and believe in Jesus, the light of the world, grant that we rejoice always in the new life that is ours; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People:  Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

(The day of God's favor and the promise of joy in the marriage supper of the Lamb which is to come.)

¹ The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; ² to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; ³to grant to those who mourn in Zion— to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified.

⁴ They shall build up the ancient ruins; they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations...

⁸ For I the LORD love justice; I hate robbery and wrong; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. ⁹Their offspring shall be known among the nations, and their descendants in the midst of the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge them, that they are an offspring the LORD has blessed.

¹⁰ I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul 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 like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations.

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God!**

EPISTLE

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

(Rejoice, pray, and give thanks in all things for this is God's will.)

¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray without ceasing, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰ Do not despise prophecies, ²¹ but test everything; hold fast what is good. ²² Abstain from every form of evil.

²³ Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴ He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM @10:30am

"I Wonder As I Wander"

Appalachian, arr. John Rutter

The Cathedral Choir; Abigail Snow-Beck, Soprano

GOSPEL

John 1:6-8, 19-28

(John the Baptist points to the One who is to come, of whom he is not worthy to untie His sandals.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

People:



☐ Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸ He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light...

¹⁹And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" ²⁰ He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." ²¹And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." ²²So they said to him, "Who are you? We need to give an answer to 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."

²⁴(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) ²⁵They asked him, "Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" ²⁶John answered them, "I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, ²⁷even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie." ²⁸These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People:



☐ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

CONFESSION OF THE LUTHERAN FAITH

Pastor: Mary, the most blessed virgin, did not conceive a mere, ordinary human being, but a human being who is truly the Son of the most high God, as the angel testifies.

People: **He demonstrated his divine majesty even in his mother's womb in that he was born of a virgin. Therefore she is truly the mother of God and yet remained a virgin.**

Pastor: On this basis, Christ performed all his miracles and manifest his divine majesty according to his good pleasure, when and how he wanted to.

People: **He did so not only after his resurrection and ascension, but also in the state of his humiliation.**

Pastor: He had this majesty immediately at his conception even in his mother's womb, but laid it aside.

People: **But now since he ascended to heaven, far above all heavens that he might truly fill all things, he is everywhere present to rule, not only as God but also as man, from sea to sea and to the ends of the earth.**



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten Ere the worlds be -
 2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, When the vir - gin,
 3 This is He whom seers in old time Chant - ed of with
 4 O ye heights of heav'n, a - dore Him; An - gel hosts, His
 △ 5 Christ, to Thee, with God the Fa - ther, And, O Ho - ly



gan to be, He is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
 full of grace, By the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
 one ac - cord, Whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
 prais - es sing. Pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore Him
 Ghost, to Thee Hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



He the source, the end - ing He, Of the things that are, that
 Bore the Sav - ior of our race, And the babe, the world's Re -
 Prom - ised in their faith - ful word. Now He shines, the long - ex -
 And ex - tol our God and King. Let no tongue on earth be
 And un - end - ing prais - es be, Hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, And that fu - ture years shall see
 deem - er, First re - vealed His sa - cred face
 pect - ed; Let cre - a - tion praise its Lord
 si - lent, Ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring
 min - ion, And e - ter - nal vic - to - ry



Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.

SERMON

“Prologue”

John 1:20

Vicar Adam Hiles, Pastoral Student

Historic Trinity, Detroit; St. Paul, Royal Oak

OFFERTORY

The offertories during the season of Advent will lead us to the manger, where God's greatest Gift to the world may be found. In response, we offer to Him our hearts and lives.

**♪ Then entered in those Wise men three Full reverently upon their knee,
 And offered there in His presence Their gold and myrrh and frankincense.
 Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel Born is the King of Israel!**

**Then let us all with one accord Sing praises to our heavenly Lord
That hath made Heaven and earth of nought And with his blood mankind has bought.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel Born is the King of Israel!**

GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*Please consider continuing to support the work of the Lord at Historic Trinity with a sacrificial gift.
You can donate at historictrinity.org/give, or mail to 1345 Gratiot Ave, Detroit, MI 48207.*



VOLUNTARY

“Sire, the night is darker now...”

Karl Osterland

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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.**

9am continues with the benediction

*** The Order of Holy Communion ***

@10:30am

THE PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: 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 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 saying:

SANCTUS

tune: LSB 374

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of all cre - a - tion,
Heav - en holds Your pow'r and might, earth Your in - car - na - tion.
Sing "Ho - san - na!" to the Lord, bless the name of Je - sus!
He Who came in Beth - le - hem, comes a - gain to free__ us.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION Mt 26:26-28; Mk 14:22-24; Lk 22:19-20; 1 Co 11:23-25

THE PAX DOMINI Jn 20:19

Pastor: The peace of Lord be with you all.

People:  Amen.

THE AGNUS DEI Jn 1:29

LSB p. 198

 O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace.

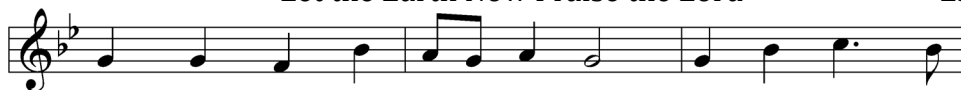
Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

*For those with health concerns, there is non-alcoholic white wine in the center of each tray.
Communion will take place in two continuous lines at the altar.*

“Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord”

LSB 352



1 Let the earth now praise the Lord, Who has tru - ly
2 What the Fa - thers most de - sired, What the proph - ets'
3 A - bram's prom - ised great re - ward, Zi - on's help - er,
4 As Your com - ing was in peace, Qui - et, full of



kept His word And at last to us did send
heart in - spired, What they longed for man - y a year,
Ja - cob's Lord— Him of two - fold race be - hold—
gen - tle - ness, Let the same mind dwell in me



Christ, the sin - ner's help and friend.
Stands ful - filled in glo - ry here.
Tru - ly came, as long fore - told.
Which is Yours e - ter - nal - ly.

Bruise for me the serpent's head That, set free from doubt and dread,
I may cling to You in faith, Safely kept through life and death.

Then when You will come again As the glorious king to reign,
I with joy will see Your face, Freely ransomed by Your grace.

DISMISSAL



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You spoke through John to point people to Jesus, the Christ. By the power of Your Holy Spirit, work through us to bear witness to Christ as well; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People:  Amen.

BENEDICTION Num. 6:24-26

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The ✱ Lord lift his countenance upon you and give you peace.

People: 
 A-men, a-men, a - men.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

“Once He Came in Blessing”

LSB 333



1 Once He came in bless - ing, All our sins re -
 2 Now He gent - ly leads us; With Him - self He
 3 Soon will come that hour _____ When with might - y
 4 Come, then, O Lord Je - sus, From our sins re -



dress - ing; Came in like - ness low - ly,
 feeds us Pre - cious food from heav - en,
 pow - er Christ will come in splen - dor
 lease us. Keep our hearts be - liev - ing,



Son of God most ho - ly; Bore the cross to
 Pledge of peace here giv - en, Man - na that will
 And will judg - ment ren - der, With the faith - ful
 That we, grace re - ceiv - ing, Ev - er may con -



save us; Hope and free - dom gave us.
 nour - ish Souls that they may flour - ish.
 shar - ing Joy be - yond com - par - ing.
 fess You Till in heav'n we bless You.

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POSTLUDE

“In his master’s steps he trod . . .”

Karl Osterland