

A Celebration of the
NEW YEAR

December 31, 2024



Pastoral Staff

Rev. D. Lee Andrzejewski
Head Pastor
Rev. Dr. David PE Maier
Associate Pastor
Rev. Dr. John L. Heins
Assisting Pastor
Rev. Ronald Guettler
Assisting Pastor
Rev. James Rolf
Assisting Pastor
Rev. Peter Nickel
Assisting Pastor
Rev. Alan Eisinger
Assisting Pastor
Rev. Dr. Gerberding, *Emeritus*
Rev. J. Gruetzner, *Emeritus*

Staff

Mr. Karl Osterland
Director of Music Ministry
Mrs. Mariana Stecker
Office Manager
Mrs. Tammy Eberhard
Director of Operations
Mrs. Kristen Andrzejewski
Financial Secretary
Mrs. Stephanie Listman
Office Assistant
Mrs. Susan Lockhart
Office Assistant

OUR HOPE
FOR YEARS
TO COME.

PS 33:20



Historic
TRINITY
— since 1850 —
DETROIT
America's Lutheran Cathedral

1345 Gratiot Ave. Detroit, MI 48207
(313) 567-3100
historicttrinity.org

Historic Trinity

Lutheran Church

December 31, 2024

New Year's Eve: Every Season of Your Soul

PRELUDE

"Abide With Me"

Hubert Parry

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

LSB 733



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,
2 Un - der the shad - ow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt se - cure;
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood Or earth re - ceived her frame,
4 A thou - sand a - ges in Thy sight Are like an eve - ning gone,



Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home:
Suf - fi - cient is Thine arm a - lone, And our de - fense is sure.
From ev - er - last - ing Thou art God, To end - less years the same.
Short as the watch that ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream, Soon bears us all away;
We fly forgotten as a dream Dies at the op'ning day.

O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last And our eternal home!

INVOCATION

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

People:  **Amen.**


OPENING PRAYER

Pastor: As we gather for worship on this New Year's Eve, we thank God for the year drawing to a close. Especially we thank Him for the blessing of significant times in our Christian lives, where He has intervened and shown His gracious favor. We pray together:

People: **Gracious Lord, we praise You for being with us in all seasons of life, for blessing us through Your gifts of grace and strengthening our faith in Your Word. Be with us as we close this calendar year. May all our endings and beginnings be made in Your holy name. Amen.**

A CLOSING PRAYER FOR 2024

Pastor: God of all time and eternity, the Alpha and Omega, we commit to You the year now completed and commend to Your kindness and love the year now at hand. Throughout the coming days, weeks, and months, may You find us deep in Your Word, gathering at Your table, and rejoicing in the fellowship of the family of faith, that we may be thoroughly strengthened, and grounded in the love, grace, and mercy of Christ, our Lord, in whose wondrous name we commence this new year.

People:  **Amen.**

A FIRST SEASON: HOLY BAPTISM

Pastor: God grants each of us His blessing throughout the times of our lives. Those blessings begin in Holy Baptism. This evening, we recall from the Small Catechism what baptizing with the water of God's grace indicates.


People: **It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: In true contrition and repentance, let us confess our sins to our merciful God.

People: **Forgive us, Lord, for those things in our lives that do not reflect Your love. We confess our sinfulness and earnestly ask for Your forgiveness. Grant us help and healing that we may amend our sinful lives.**

Pastor: For the sake of Jesus Christ, God grants forgiveness to those who call upon Him in faith. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People:  **Amen.**

HYMN

"I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry"

WOV 770



1 "I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be
 2 "When you heard the won - der of the Word I was
 3 "In the mid - dle a - ges of your life, not too
 there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you
 there to cheer you on; you were raised to praise the
 old, no lon - ger young, I'll be there to guide you
 were bap - tized to see your life un - fold.
 liv - ing Lord, to whom you now be - long.
 through the night, com - plete what I've be - gun.
 I was there when you were but a child, with a
 If you find some - one to share your time and you
 When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you
 faith to suit you well; in a blaze of light you
 join your hearts as one, I'll be there to make your
 shut your wea - ry eyes, I'll be there as I have
 wan - dered off to find where de - mons dwell."
 vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun."
 al - ways been, with just one more sur - prise."

Repeat verse 1

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 51:1-6

(God promises to His people a love that lasts for all times.)

¹ "Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the LORD: look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. ²Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, that I might bless him and multiply him. ³For the LORD comforts Zion; he comforts all her waste places and makes her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴ "Give attention to me, my people, and give ear to me, my nation; for a law will go out from me, and I will set my justice for a light to the peoples. ⁵ My righteousness draws near, my salvation has gone out, and my arms will judge the peoples; the coastlands hope for me, and for my arm they wait.

⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens vanish like smoke the earth will wear out like a garment, and they who dwell in it will die in like manner; but my salvation will be forever, and my righteousness will never be dismayed.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God. Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever.**

A SECOND SEASON: CONFIRMATION

Pastor: God grants us many opportunities for growth in faith. These may come through our daily devotions, through our careful listening at worship and through Christian instruction received in Confirmation. Together we speak the words of intention that form part of the promises made at the time of Confirmation.

People: **I intend faithfully to conform all my life to the divine Word, to be faithful in the use of God's Word and Sacraments, which are His means of grace, and in faith, word, and action to remain true to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, even to death.**

Pastor: Let us join in singing a hymn that reflects our confirmation faith.

HYMN

LSB 644 v. 1-2

♪ **The Church's one foundation Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
She is His new creation By water and the Word.
From heav'n He came and sought her To be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.**

**Elect from ev'ry nation, Yet one o'er all the earth;
Her charter of salvation: One Lord, one faith, one birth.
One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses With ev'ry grace endued.**

EPISTLE

Romans 8:31-39

(Nothing, not even time, shall be able to separate us from God's love for us.)

³¹What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised— who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered."

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

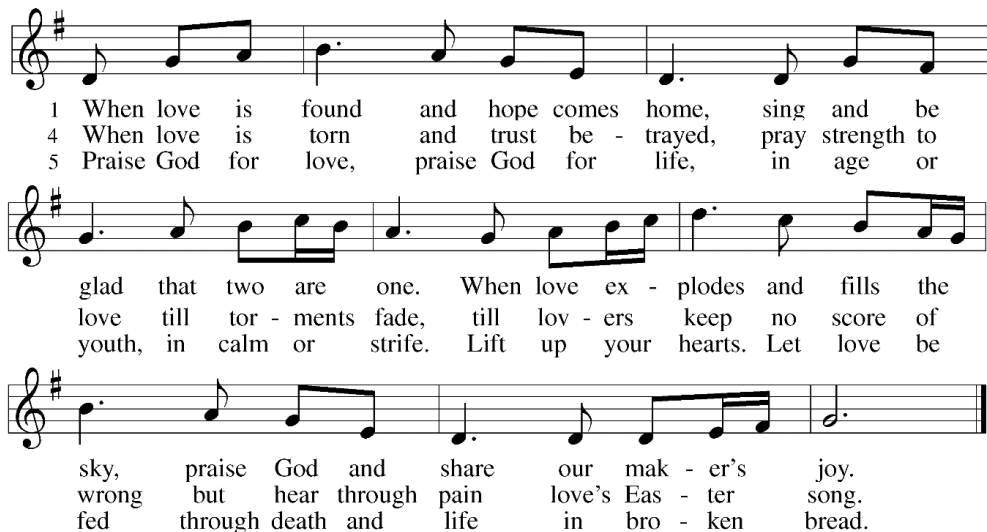
People: **Thanks be to God. Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever.**

A THIRD SEASON: MARRIAGE

Pastor: The bond of love between husband and wife reflects the love that Christ has for the Church. For many people, standing in front of the Lord's altar at the time of their wedding is a most important time of their lives. Together we sing a hymn that calls to mind this special occasion.

HYMN

tune: LSB 595



1 When love is found and hope comes home, sing and be
4 When love is torn and trust be - trayed, pray strength to
5 Praise God for love, praise God for life, in age or
glad that two are one. When love ex - plodes and fills the
love till tor - ments fade, till lov - ers keep no score of
youth, in calm or strife. Lift up your hearts. Let love be
sky, praise God and share our mak - er's joy.
wrong but hear through pain love's Eas - er song.
fed through death and life in bro - ken bread.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 1:18-21

(When the time was right, the angel announced the coming of Jesus.)

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God. Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

A FOURTH SEASON: GROWTH AND AGING

Pastor: In all of the times of our lives, the Lord has promised His faithfulness. Through the words of the prophet Isaiah He says: "I have called you by name. You are Mine." Let us commend our times to Him as we pray together.

All: Gracious God of endings and beginnings, we commit to Your grace and forgiveness the year now completed and commend to Your kindness and love the year now at hand. Throughout the coming weeks and months make the presence of Your Holy Spirit known in our lives, drawing us closer to Jesus, our Lord, and our Redeemer, in whose wondrous name we make all of our beginnings. Amen.

HYMN

"How Firm a Foundation"

LSB 728 v. 1-2, 5

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
2 "Fear not! I am with you, O be not dis - mayed,
5 "Through - out all their life - time My peo - ple will prove

Is laid for your faith in His ex - cel - lent Word!
For I am your God and will still give you aid;
My sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;

What more can He say than to you He has said
I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
And then, when gray hairs will their tem - ples a - dorn,

Who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
Up - held by My righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand,
Like lambs they will still in My bos - om be borne."

HOMILY

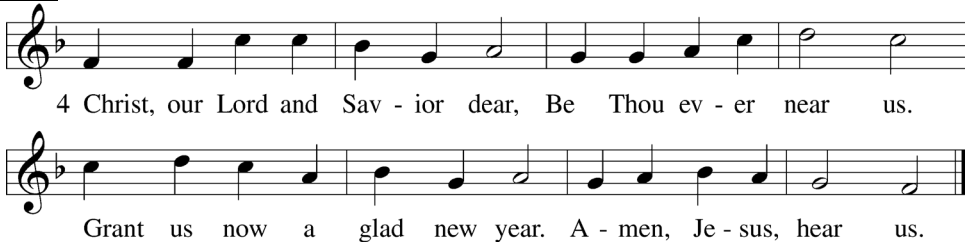
"When the Devil was Waiting for Me Down the Hall"

Romans 8:38

*Rev. D. Lee Andrzejewski, Head Pastor
Historic Trinity Lutheran Church*

OFFERTORY

LSB 390 v. 4



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

"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

Paul Manz

PRAYER OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Pastor: Take us into the new year, Gracious God. Help us to continue looking for purpose, seeking peace, praying for light, dancing for joy, working for justice, singing your praise, and fixing our eyes on Jesus. We go into the new year filled with expectations, a touch of worry, but a bundle of hope. We do not journey into the new year alone but with You leading the way. May we follow in Your footsteps with a commitment to discipleship, with a community of family, friends, and faith. Take us into the new year, Creator of beauty and wonder. Bless us with the companionship of Jesus, and gift us with the guidance and power of the Spirit.

People: Amen.

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.

PREFACE *(spoken)*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
 Pastor: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.
 Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
 Pastor: It is truly right and fitting that we should give thanks to You, gracious Lord.
 You are the source of our life and the ruler of time.
People: Strengthen us with Your presence, eternal God, that we may ever live to Your glory.

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.

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.*

"Rock of Ages"

LSB 761



1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my - self in Thee;
 2 Not the la - bors of my hands Can ful - fill Thy Law's de-mands;
 3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; Sim - ply to Thy cross I cling.
 4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, When mine eye - lids close in death,



Let the wa - ter and the blood, From Thy riv - en side which flowed,
 Could my zeal no res - pite know, Could my tears for - ev - er flow,
 Na - ked, come to Thee for dress; Help - less, look to Thee for grace;
 When I soar to worlds un-known, See Thee on Thy judg - ment throne,



Be of sin the dou - ble cure: Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.
 All for sin could not a - tone; Thou must save, and Thou a - lone.
 Foul, I to the foun-tain fly; Wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.
 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my - self in Thee.

DISMISSAL

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Lord, we thank You that once again You have been with us as we have gathered in Your house, and that of Your mercy You have strengthened us with Your heavenly feast. Bless our lives with Your abiding presence, and bring us at last to Your eternal kingdom. We ask this for Jesus' sake.

People: **Amen.**

A FIFTH SEASON: DYING, AND THE JOURNEY HOME

Pastor: There is an end to earthly times as we know them for each person. The Psalmist reminds us that “the length of our days is seventy years—or eighty, if we have the strength, yet their span is but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away.” In all of our times we remain in the Lord's care, being kept by Him until that hour when time itself ends and we rejoice in His eternal presence. Let us pray one of the funeral collects of the Church which for generations has reflected the hope of the faithful.

ALL: **O God, Your days are without end and Your mercies cannot be counted. Make us aware of the shortness and uncertainty of human life, and let Your Holy Spirit lead us in holiness and righteousness all the days of our life, so that, when we shall have served You in our generation, we may be gathered to our ancestors, having the testimony of a good conscience, in the communion of Your Church, in the confidence of a certain faith, in the comfort of a holy hope, in favor with You, our God, and in peace with all humanity, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen**

Pastor: Together we sing a hymn often used at Christian funerals, which reminds us of our Lord's guiding throughout our earthly life.

HYMN

“Abide With Me”

LSB 878 v. 1,2,4,6

♪ **Abide with me, fast falls the eventide.
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.**

I need Thy presence ev'ry passing hour;
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?
Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see;
O Thou who changest not, abide with me.

Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

AN OPENING PRAYER FOR 2025

Pastor: With hopeful hearts, Lord, we begin the New Year. Fill each day and every season with Your presence. May we walk from week to week ever more closely with You. May Your light brighten our every pathway. By Your grace, bring us all at last to light eternal in Your glorious presence. We ask this in the name of Jesus, who is the Light of the world.

People:  Amen.

A CHORAL BLESSING FOR 2025

*An Old Irish Blessing, Dennis Agay
The Cathedral Choir*

*May the road rise to meet you, May the wind be always at your back,
The sunshine warm upon your face, The rains fall soft upon your fields,
And until we meet again, May God hold you in the palm of his hand.*

*May the Lord bless you and keep you,
May the Lord cause His face to shine upon you and give you peace.*

POSTLUDE

"March of Time"

Karl Osterland