



THE HOLY EUCHARIST
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
November 29, 2020 + 11:00am
TRINITY LOWER EAST SIDE LUTHERAN PARISH
in the City of New York

Welcome to worship! *We are so glad that you have been led to join us for worship this morning, and we believe that your presence among us more fully completes our community. Wherever you are on your journey of faith, please know that you are most welcome here, and we invite you to fully participate in our life together in whatever way you feel called to do. Our prayer is that you find Trinity to be a place where you are welcomed and affirmed in all your fabulous quirks and eccentricities, and that you feel truly seen and valued as a fellow child of God, beautifully and perfectly created in God's image! If you'd like to learn more about how to join us as we seek to embody God's love as a community of Christ, just speak with Pastor Will!*

+ + +

As followers of Jesus, we are called to love our neighbors as we have been loved by God. We believe that loving our neighbors, especially the most vulnerable among us, compels us to show great care as we gather for worship in the midst of a global pandemic. In order to ensure that our gathering is as safe as possible and minimizes the spread of disease, we ask you to please join us in following these important health and safety protocols:

- Face coverings must be worn at all times while on Trinity's property. Both mouth and nose must be fully covered.
- Please avoid close physical contact with anyone outside of your household, including refraining from handshakes or hugs. Six feet of distance should be observed at all times, including at the sharing of the Peace.
- Because communal singing has been shown to significantly spread COVID through airborne particles, all singing will be done by our cantors. Please refrain from singing, even if it's your favorite hymn, and allow the text and music of the hymns and liturgical music to speak to you in your heart and mind.
- At the distribution of Holy Communion, only the bread will be offered in order to reduce contact with the chalice. Rest assured that receiving Holy Communion "in one kind" is a fully effective and valid means of receiving the promise of Christ's presence and forgiveness in the sacrament. Worshipers will be invited forward individually to receive the bread. Please wait until returning to your seat to consume it.
- An offering basket is available at the usher's station at the entrance for your gifts in order to avoid passing the offering plates from hand to hand. We are grateful for your generosity!

+ Gathering +

PRESERVICE MUSIC

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

*As we prepare to light the advent wreath,
we sing the first verse of O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (ELW 257).*

**O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.**

At every beginning there is a yearning
for the one who is coming.

O Emmanuel,

Wake us up to your coming.

We gather together to expect the unexpected
and imagine the unimaginable.

O Emmanuel,

Wake us up to your coming.

We wait for the day
when God will recycle tanks into tractors
and transform minefields into fields of joy.

O Emmanuel,

Wake us up to your coming.

We stay awake by telling stories
that offer a glimmer of a future
and agitate dormant hope within us.

O Emmanuel,

Wake us up to your coming.

Jesus, we welcome your presence now
with the lighting of this candle,
whose flame brings warmth to winter
and fills this place with the glow of hope.

Amen.

As the first candle is lit, we sing the third verse of O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

**O come, O come, O Lord of might,
as to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times you gave the law
in cloud, and majesty, and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.**

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come.

By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins,
and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day,
for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 64:1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—

²as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! ³When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

⁴From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him.

⁵You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways.

But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed.

⁶We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. ⁷There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.

⁸Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. ⁹Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

The refrain is sung by the cantor.

♩ = 110 Bmi F#mi D G vamp in F#m

Re - store us, God! Let your face shine that we may be saved.

Led. * Led. * Led. * Led. *

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and come to help us.
Restore us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
O LORD God of hosts,
how long will your anger fume when your people pray? *Refrain*

You have fed them with the bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
You have made us the derision of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,
the one you have made so strong for yourself. *Refrain*

And so will we never turn away from you;
give us life, that we may call upon your name.
Restore us, O LORD God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved. *Refrain*

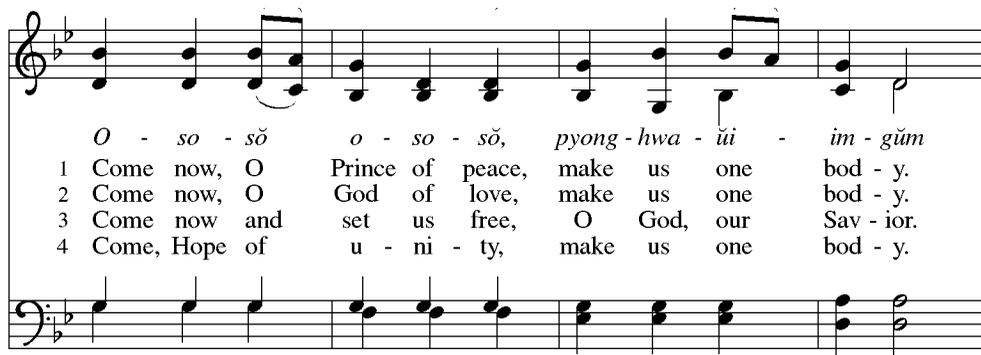
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Come Now, O Prince of Peace

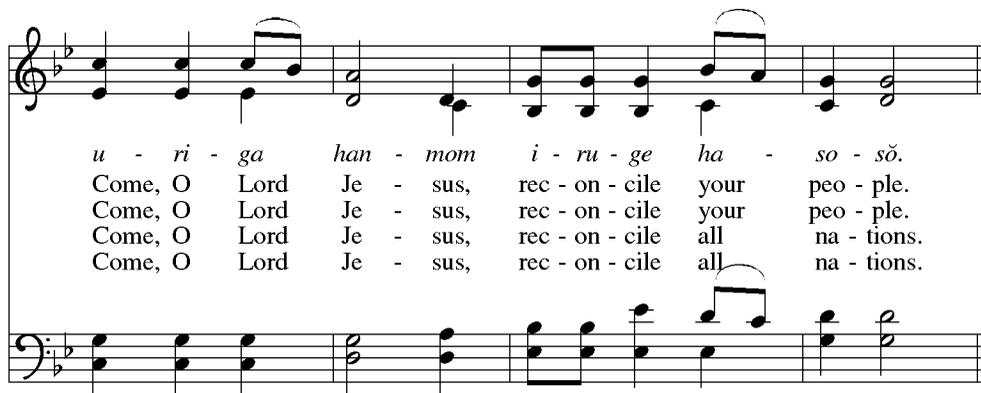
The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

Verses 1 and 2 are sung before the gospel.

Verses 3 and 4 are sung after the gospel.



O - so - sŏ o - so - sŏ, pyong - hwa - ūi - im - gŭm
1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one bod - y.
2 Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.
3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior.
4 Come, Hope of u - ni - ty, make us one bod - y.



u - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - sŏ.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.

GOSPEL

Mark 13:24-37

The holy gospel according to Saint Mark.

Glorify to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: ²⁴“In those days, after that suffering, he sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

²⁶Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³²“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware,

keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Verses 3 and 4, found on the previous page.

SERMON

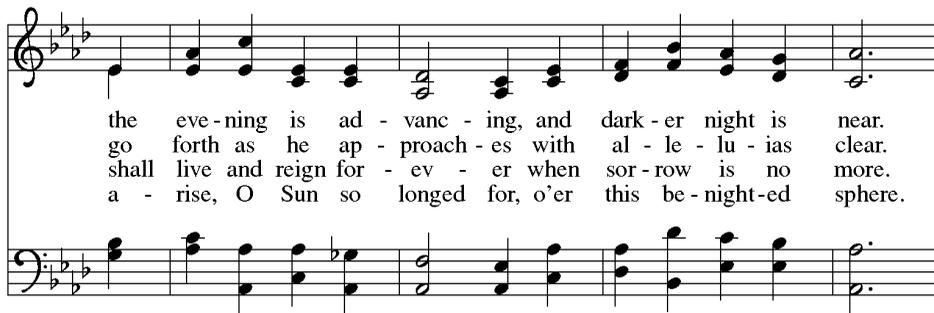
A period of silence follows, introduced and concluded by bell.

HYMN OF THE DAY

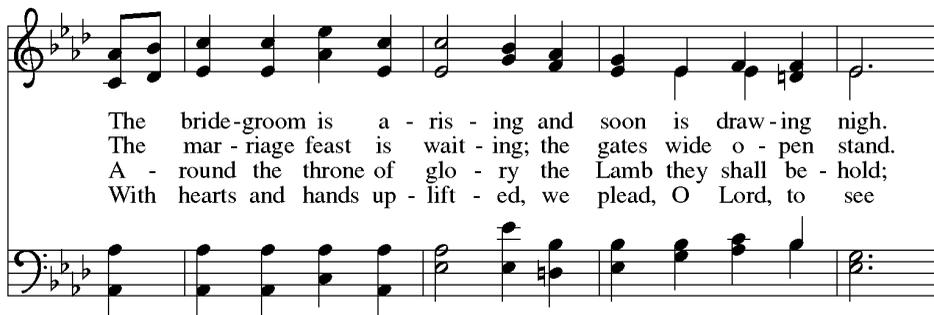
Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers vv. 1 & 4



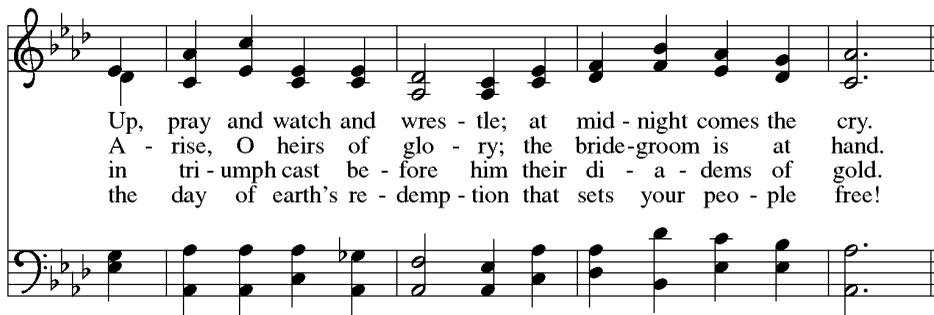
1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
 2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;
 3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ings bore,
 4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



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!

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of power and might, tear open the heavens and come quickly to this weary world.
Hear our prayers for everyone in need.

*The following response, using the Aramaic phrase “Maranatha”, or “O Lord, Come”,
is sung throughout the prayers as indicated:*



O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer. Mar - a -
na - tha! Mar-a - na - tha! O come, Lord Je - sus, come.

We pray for the ministry we share in Christ’s name. Open our hearts to your call for justice, peace, and healing. Attune us to the needs of the world as you draw near.

We pray for this planet in need of restoration: for devastated habitats, polluted waters, thawing ice, blazing fires, swelling floods, and long-lasting droughts. Renew the face of the earth and our relationship to it.

We pray for all people who care for others in our community and around the world. Fill them with compassion and the power to respond with justice for those who are oppressed, with welcome for those who are excluded, and with relief for those who suffer.

Response

We pray for people who are in crisis as the seasons change: for those without homes facing severe weather, for those who are unemployed or underemployed, and for those in poverty or facing food insecurity. Relieve their burdens, sustain their bodies, and ease their minds.

We pray for the people in our families and congregation who live with depression, anxiety, chronic pain, addiction, and other invisible illnesses, and for all those we name before you now, aloud or in the silence of our hearts... Ease their suffering and support them when they struggle.

We give thanks for the lives and witness of those who died while waiting for justice, peace, or healing, those whose names we know and those whose names are known only to you. Sustain all who still yearn for the completion of your redeeming work

Response

Draw near to us, O God, and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE PEACE

The people may greet one another with a wave, a peace sign, a bow of the head, or any other sign of peace that allows for physical distancing.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

+ Meal +

OFFERING

To avoid multiple people physically contacting the offering plates, your gifts of money may be left in the basket at the usher's station. Offerings may also be made online at www.trinitylowereastside.org/give as one-time or recurring contributions.

OFFERTORY SONG

Unexpected and Mysterious

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.

Generous God,
you have created all that is,
and you provide for us in every season.

Bless all that we offer,
that through these gifts the world will receive your blessing.

In the name of Jesus, Emmanuel, we pray.

Amen.

THE 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... *Here the presiding minister continues with the preface for the day, concluding: ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:*

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,

God of power and might.

Heaven 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.

The presiding minister continues the Eucharistic Prayer, which concludes:

... be all glory and honor, now and forever.

Amen.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

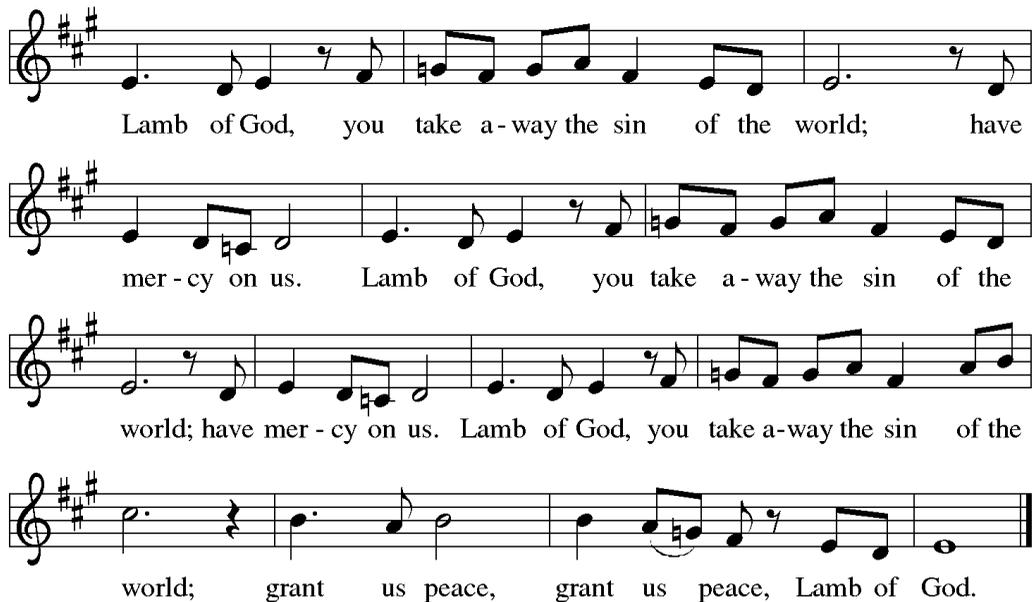
Even as we watch and wait, Christ is here.
Come, eat and drink.

COMMUNION

All are welcome to receive the Holy Communion. To reduce the risk of infection, only the bread will be offered in the form of gluten-free wafers. Please remain at your seat until invited forward, and wait to consume the bread until you have returned to your seat.

COMMUNION SONG

Lamb of God



The image shows four staves of musical notation for the Communion Song 'Lamb of God'. The music is written in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a common time signature (C). The lyrics are written below the notes.

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

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of Christ
strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Gracious and abundant God,
you have done great things for us, and we rejoice.

In this bread and cup you give us life forever.

In your boundless mercy, strengthen us
and open our hearts to the world's needs,

for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

+ Sending +

BLESSING

The Creator of the stars bless your Advent waiting,
the long-expected Savior fill you with love,
the unexpected Spirit guide your journey,
+ now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying vv. 1 & 3



1 Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing, the watch-men
2 Zi - on hears the watch-men sing - ing, and all her
3 Glo - ri - a! Let heav'n a - dore you! Let saints and



on the heights are cry - ing; a - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, at last.
heart with joy is spring-ing. She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.
an - gels sing be - fore you, with harp and cym-bal's clear-est tone.

Continued on the next page



Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es, and at the
 Her dear friend comes down, all glo - rious, the strong in
 Gates of pearl, twelve por - tals gleam - ing, lead us to



thrill - ing cry re - joic - es: "Come forth, you maid - ens! Night is past.
 grace, in truth vic - to - rious: her star is ris'n; her light is come.
 bliss be - yond all dream - ing, with an - gel choirs a - round your throne.



The bride - groom comes! A - wake; your lamps with glad - ness take!"
 Now come, O Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son.
 No eye has caught the light, no ear the thun - d'ring might



Al - le - lu - ia! Rise and pre - pare the feast to share;
 Sing ho - san - na! Oh, hear the call! Come one, come all,
 of such glo - ry. There we will go: what joy we'll know!



go, meet the bride - groom, who draws near.
 and fol - low to the ban - quet hall.
 There sweet de - light will ev - er flow.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



The season of Advent is perhaps the richest season in the life of the church, a time that is full of symbols and rituals that draw us into the wonder of God's coming among us in the person of Christ. As the days grow shorter and the nights grow darker amidst the continuing pandemic, the need to celebrate Advent well is more important this year than ever. Whether you are staying home or venturing out, we hope that you will join us as we keep a holy Advent and wait for the coming of Christ among us, whose joy banishes our gloom and whose life triumphs over death.

Advent at Home

Advent wreath and home devotions

To help you celebrate Advent in your home, we are offering an "Advent at Home" kit, which will include a 12 inch advent wreath frame with four blue candles and a booklet with prayers and readings to accompany the lighting of the advent wreath each night. We are asking for a \$20 donation to cover the costs, but will be glad to offer a wreath to anyone regardless of ability to donate. The wreaths will be available to pick up at church beginning the First Sunday of Advent, November 29. Quantities are limited, so be sure to email Pastor Will or call the church to reserve yours!

Advent Vespers

Wednesdays at 7:30pm

Pause in the midst of your week for a weekly service of Vespers, or Evening Prayer, each Wednesday in Advent at 7:30pm.. With prayers, scripture, and songs, Evening Prayer provides a beautiful opportunity to be centered in prayer as we turn our hearts to the light of Christ coming among us. Advent Vespers will be celebrated online only, livestreamed on our Facebook page.

Walking Nativity

December 21 at 7:00pm

On the darkest and longest night of the year, we will gather for a walking nativity, recounting the story of Christ's birth as we journey throughout the East Village. Each part of the nativity story will be told at a place that reflects the key themes of the story: places of announcement, places of the marginalized, places of welcome, and places of power. Accompanied by the singing of Christmas carols, we will experience the story of Christ's birth in new and profound ways as we consider the meaning of Christmas for our community and world today. We will gather in Trinity's garden at 7:00, and return to enjoy warm beverages.

About Trinity:

Trinity Lower East Side Lutheran Parish is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). We are 3.8 million Christians in 10,000 churches who believe that the good news of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection is the core of our faith and life. We welcome women, men, and people of all gender identities into ordained ministry and are enthusiastically ecumenical.

Our Mission:

We welcome everyone into membership regardless of race, economic means, married/single status, sexual orientation, or gender expression and/or identity. We are a richly diverse congregation in a richly diverse neighborhood. We live our Christianity in word and deed. We are here to share the love of Jesus Christ.

Reconciling Works Congregation:

Trinity LES is listed as a Reconciling Works congregation that welcomes LGBTQIA+ people into our fellowship and works to erase all discrimination against them.

Our Outreach:

To carry out our ministry of deed, Trinity LES has a separately incorporated non-profit program, Trinity's Services And Food for the Homeless (also known as SAFH, pronounced "safe") which operates a soup kitchen, food pantry, and offers connections to other services. Between 150-250 meals are served each day, and around 30-40 families are given groceries from our pantry Monday through Friday. Volunteers are always needed. Visit safhnyc.org for more information.

Those Who Serve:

Pastor: Rev. William Kroeze (pastor@trinitylowereastside.org)

Pianist: Paul Staroba

Choir Director: Alex Lawrence (alex@trinitylowereastside.org)

Worship Assistants, Crucifers, Readers: Members and Friends of Trinity

Our Contact Information:

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Facebook: Facebook.com/TrinityLES

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