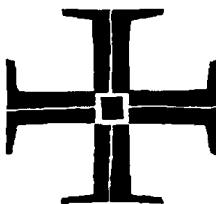


THE HOLY EUCHARIST
THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
A Service of Lessons and Carols with Children's Pageant
DECEMBER 14, 2025 + 11:00 a.m.

TRINITY LOWER EAST SIDE LUTHERAN PARISH
in the City of New York

Welcome to worship!

We are so pleased to have you with us this morning for worship, and we believe that your presence among us more fully completes our community. Whoever you are, whatever your identities, whoever you love, and wherever you are on your journey of life and faith, you are welcome here!



Out of respect for this time of worship, please silence all mobile devices.

As Christ welcomed all to his table without distinction, so you are welcome at our table at the celebration of Holy Communion. Regardless of your religious tradition or stage in your journey of faith, there's a place for you here!

Two all-gender restrooms are located in the Community Room on the first floor. A changing table for infants is available.

If you're visiting us this morning and would like to keep in touch,

- Add your name and contact information to the guest book on the Welcome Table at the sanctuary entrance.
- Follow us on social media:
 - Facebook: @TrinityLES (including livestreams of worship)
 - Instagram: @TrinityLES.NYC
 - Follow our feeding ministry @TrinitySAFH on all platforms

Periodically throughout the year, we offer orientation sessions for newcomers and welcome new members into our congregation. If you've been worshiping with us and would like to learn more about becoming a member of Trinity, be sure to speak with our pastor and you could be a member in no time at all!

Trinity Lower East Side Lutheran Parish is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Mohican and Munsee Lenape peoples, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

+ Gathering +

As the assembly gathers for worship, we sing:
“Prepare Ye” from *Godspell*, by Stephen Schwartz

Prepare ye the way of the Lord.
Prepare ye the way of the Lord.
Prepare ye the way of the Lord.
Prepare ye the way of the Lord.

THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT

In the name of the Father who created the earth and the stars of night,
and of the + Son, who draws near to our world in need,
and of the Holy Spirit, whose fire warms our hearts and lightens the world.
Amen.

Let us pray.

We praise you, O God, for this victory wreath
that marks our days of preparation for Christ’s advent.
As we light the candles on this wreath,
strengthen our hearts
as we await the Lord’s coming in glory.
Enlighten us with your grace,
that we may serve our neighbors in need.
Grant this through Christ our Lord,
whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.
Amen.

Leader

The Lord be with you.

Assembly

And also with you.

Leader

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Assembly

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

As the candle is lit, the cantor sings:

We give you thanks, O God, for it is you who called forth light, and you led your people Israel with wonders and with signs.

The assembly sings:

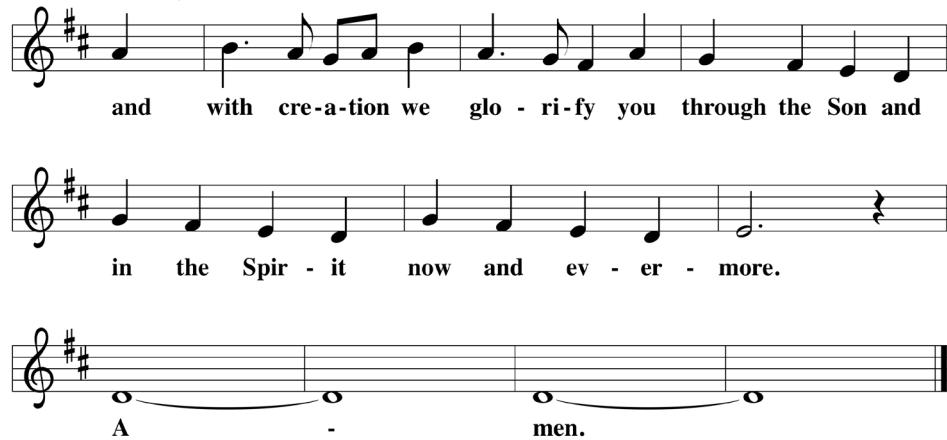
Lead us in this sea - son's wait - ing with won - ders speak - ing

hope and signs of Je - sus' in - car - na - tion;

Cantor:

For your mercy is our light and your compassion is our guide,

Assembly:



and with creation we glorify you through the Son and
in the Spirit now and ever more.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Awake, Awake, and Greet the New Morn

ELW 242

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.

KYRIE

*The refrain is sung by the assembly;
the verses are sung by the cantor.*



Bring your mercy, bring your mercy, bring your mercy Lord.

To those who are distant, to those who are near.

To those with resistance, to those who live in fear. **Refrain**

To our hidden places only you can see.

To the many faces yearning to be free. **Refrain**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God,
and strengthen our faith in your coming,
that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

+ Word +

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus ² it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and shouting. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God.]]
³ Strengthen the weak hands and make firm the feeble knees. ⁴ Say to those who are of a fearful heart, “Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.”

⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be opened; ⁶ then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth

in the wilderness and streams in the desert; ⁷ the burning sand shall become a pool and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp; the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

⁸ A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God’s people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. ⁹ No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. ¹⁰ And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON

James 5:7-10

Be patient, therefore, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is

near. ⁹Brothers and sisters, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

CHOIR ANTHEM

Christmas Sanctus

Words by Susan Naus Dengler, Music by Lee Dengler,
Orchestration by Ed Hogan

THIRD LESSON

Christmas Pageant, Part I

Mary and Joseph Go to Bethlehem | Luke 2:1-7

CAROLS

O Little Town of Bethlehem, verse 1

**O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.**

Away in a Manger, verse 1

**Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

FOURTH LESSON

Christmas Pageant, Part II
The Shepherds | Luke 2:8-16

CAROL

Angels We Have Heard on High, verse 1

**Angels we have heard on high,
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply,
echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo;
Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

FIFTH LESSON

Christmas Pageant, Part III
The Wise Ones | Matthew 2:1-2, 9-12

CAROLS

We Three Kings, verse 1

**We three kings of Orient are
Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain, moor and mountain
Following yonder star**

**O Star of wonder, star of night
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding
Guide us to thy perfect light.**

Joy to the World, verse 1

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

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.

God of power and mercy, we praise you for Jesus and his acts of healing and liberation. Lead us to proclaim the good news from generation to generation, that all may place their hope in you.

When lands are parched and dry, bring rain and snow; where wilderness is barren, sow seeds of life. Fill the lands with trees that grow, plants that flower, and creatures that thrive, as nature proclaims the wonder of your works.

When there is injustice or corruption among nations and leaders, root it out. Turn their attention to inequity and the cries of the poor. Instill a deeper sense of compassion and care in all who govern. **Response**

When bodies weaken and hearts grow fearful, speak your blessing. We pray especially for those we name before you now, aloud or in the silence of our hearts. In uncertain times, remind us of the promise spoken to our ancestors in faith.

When people are imprisoned or held captive, break the chains and offer release.
Strengthen the work of the church in restorative justice,
breaking cycles of poverty, and welcoming the immigrant.

As we await your coming, we give thanks for the faithful who have lived and died in faith.
May their boldness of faith inspire our witness and work. **Response**

Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.

Amen.

THE PEACE

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

+ Meal +

OFFERING

An offering is collected to support the work of the church in our community and the world. Gifts may also be made online at www.trinitylowereastside.org/give as one-time or recurring contributions, or on Venmo using the QR code below.

SOLO

Rejoice Greatly, by G.F. Handel
Melissa Perry, soprano



venmo

OFFERTORY SONG

Come to Be our Hope, O Jesus

*Español: 1 Tú, Je - sús, nues - tra es - pe - ran - za, ven y
 2 Ven, y te - je un mun - do nue - vo ca - mi -
 English: 1 Come to be our hope, O Je - sus, come to
 2 Come to build your new cre - a - tion through the*

*li - bra nues - tro ser. Ni - ño,
 nan - do en la ver - dad, pa - ra
 set your peo - ple free. From op -
 road of ser - vant - hood; give new*

*na - ce_en - tre no - so - tros, ven y da - nos tu po -
 que, por fin, el pue - blo vi - va_en ple - na li - ber -
 pres - sion, come, re - lease us, grant us your true lib - er -
 life to ev - 'ry na - tion, chang - ing e - vil in - to*

*der. Ven li - ber - ta pri - sio - ne - ros de_in - jus -
 tad. Ven, Je - sús, a - bre_el fu - tu - ro de tu
 ty. Come, re - lease from ev - 'ry pris - on those who
 good. Come and o - pen our to - mor - row for your*

*ti - cia, y a - flic - ción; ven, re - ú - ne nues - tros
 rei - no de_a - le - grí - a. Ven, de - rrum - ba_es - te gran
 suf - fer in our land. In your love we find the
 joy - ful reign so near. Take a - way all hu - man*

*pue - blos en a - mor y_en com - pren - sión.
 mu - ro que hoy se - pa - ra no - che_y dí - a.
 rea - son still to live and un - der - stand.
 sor - row; give us hope a - gainst our fear.*

*Português: 1 Vem, Jesus, nossa esperança, nossas vidas libertar.
 Vem, nascer em nós, criança, vem o teu poder nos dar.
 Vem, liberta os prisioneiros da injustiça e da aflição;
 vem, reúne os forasteiros em amor e em compreensão.*

*2 Vem tecer um mundo novo nos caminhos da verdade;
 para que, afinal, o povo viva em plena liberdade.
 Vem, Jesus, abre o futuro do teu reino de alegria.
 Vem, derruba o imenso muro que separa a noite e o dia.*

Text: Jaci Maraschin, 1929–2009, Portuguese and English; Spanish tr. Jorge Rodriguez

Music: JESUS NOSSA ESPERANÇA, Marcião de Oliveira Filho, 1947–2005

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Music © 1989 Marcião de Oliveira Filho, admin. World Council of Churches

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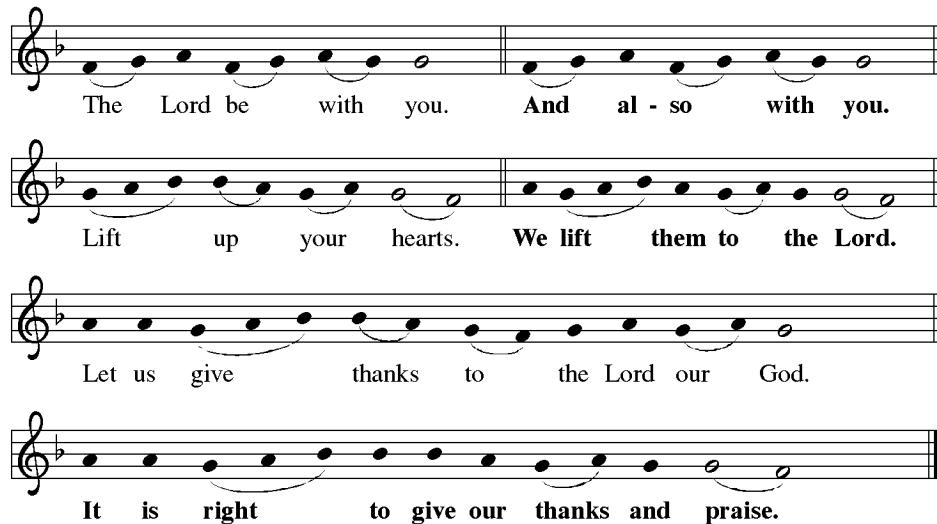
OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Nourishing God,
you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert.
Through this meal, satisfy our parched places,
that we may rejoice and be for the world
signs of your kingdom come.

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



The musical notation consists of four staves of music in G clef and common time. The lyrics are integrated into the music, with each line of text aligned with its corresponding musical phrase. The lyrics are:

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
 might; heav - en and earth are filled with your
 glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: *Now the Feast and Celebration*, Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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The presiding minister continues with the Eucharistic Prayer, remembering God's great saving deeds in this and every time, and calling upon the Holy Spirit to fill us and our bread and wine with God's presence.

The prayer concludes:

...Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

...We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

...Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

...one God, now and forever.

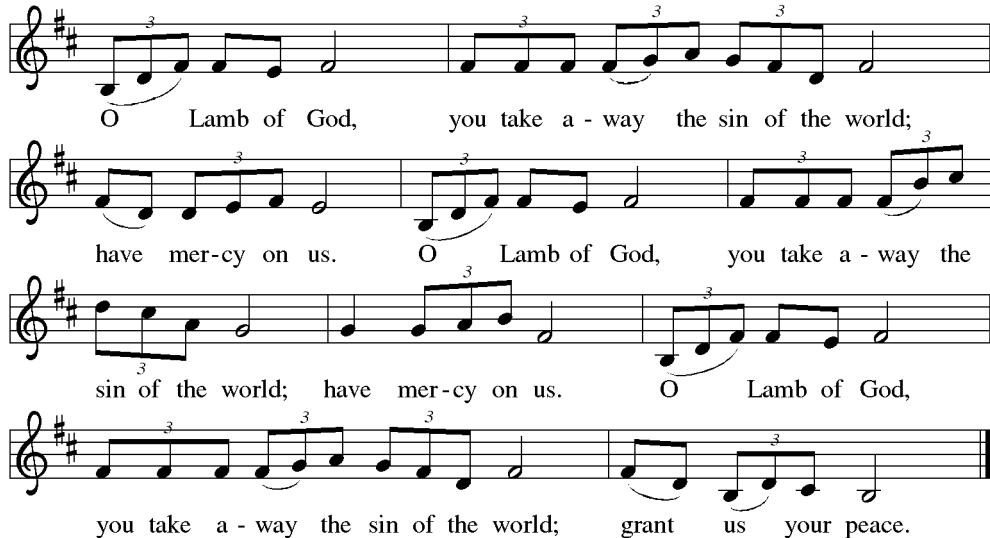
Amen.

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.

Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo,
santificado sea tu nombre.
Venga tu reino.
Hágase tu voluntad en la tierra
como en el cielo.
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día.
Perdona nuestras ofensas
como también nosotros
perdonamos a los que nos ofenden.
No nos dejes caer en tentación
y líbranos del mal.
Porque tuyo es el reino,
tuyo es el poder y tuya es la
gloria, ahora y siempre. Amén.

LAMB OF GOD



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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Here is life. God is with us.
Come, receive what God has promised.

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.
God our host,
at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness.
Send us forth, eager to share the feast,
welcome the stranger,
and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus.
Amen.

+ Sending +

BENEDICTION

May God who comes among us,
Father,  Son, and Holy Spirit,
grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness,
and good news to share today and always.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Keep awake.
Thanks be to God.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

AN INTRODUCTION TO GENESIS

This summer's Introduction to the Bible continues with an introduction to the book of Genesis. We'll gather at the end of coffee hour for an introductory study of the first book of the Bible, including a study of its major themes and stories.

WEDNESDAYS IN ADVENT: BOOK STUDY AND HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER

Each Wednesday in Advent we will gather at 6:30pm in the parsonage for a study of Barbara Brown Taylor's New York Times bestseller *An Altar in the World: A Geography of Faith*. Taylor explores how she learned to find God beyond the church walls by embracing the sacred as a natural part of everyday life.

LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE, DECEMBER 18

Advent and Christmas aren't always full of holiday cheer. As the nights get longer and longer and the calendar moves steadily toward Christmas, many of us hold sadness and pain for loved ones lost or the daily heartbreaks of a wounded world. On **Thursday, December 18 at 7pm**, we'll gather in the sanctuary for worship.

NEIGHBORHOOD CAROLING WITH ST MARK'S AND MIDDLE CHURCH - DEC 21 @ 1:30PM

On Sunday, Dec 21 we'll gather at St Mark's Church-in-the-Bowery to spread Christmas cheer in our neighborhood! We'll walk from St. Mark's to Middle Church, then to Trinity, singing all along. Everyone is welcome to join!

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Welcome the birth of Christ at our Christmas Eve candlelight service, Wednesday Dec 24 at 7:00p.m. Filled with beloved carols, holy words of hope, and the glow of candles, our hearts will be filled with joy as we worship the newborn Christ!

NEWCOMERS' ORIENTATIONS GATHERING SOON

Have you been worshiping with us and would like to learn more about our congregation? We'll be offering a series of newcomer's orientations where you'll have a chance to learn about our congregation's history, mission, and ministries, and some basics of the Lutheran tradition. If you'd like to be included, be sure to speak with Pastor Will or Vicar Nick!

COAT DRIVE

Trinity's Services And Food for the
Homeless is collecting coats for
New Yorkers in need



NOW THROUGH DEC 31

ANY CLEAN, GENTLY USED JACKET OR COAT IS WELCOME.

www.safhny.org

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 genders 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 safhny.org for more information.

Our Schedule:

Mon – Fri:	11:00am, Soup Kitchen; 12:30pm, Food Pantry
Mon:	7:00pm, "Valley of the Dolls" NA Group
Tues:	7:00pm and 8:00pm, "East Village" AA Group
Wed:	7:30pm, STP Creative Foundation
Thurs:	7:30pm, "Clean and Dry" AA Group
Sun:	11:00am, Worship Service

Those Who Serve:

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

Pastoral Intern: Vicar Nicolas Paulson-Moe (vicar@trinitylowereastside.org)

Pianist: Paul Staroba

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

Administrator: Gillian Fox Orwoll (office@trinitylowereastside.org)

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

Our Contact Information:

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Telephone: 212-228-5254 x11

Fax: 212-674-3872

Website: TrinityLowerEastSide.org

Instagram: [@TrinityLES.NYC](https://www.instagram.com/@TrinityLES.NYC)

Twitter: [@Trinity_SAFH](https://twitter.com/@Trinity_SAFH)

Facebook: [Facebook.com/TrinityLES](https://www.facebook.com/TrinityLES)