# Worship Service for December 5, 2021 9:00am



Trinity Lutheran Church 812 N. Fifth St. Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Trinity is a Christ-centered community of believers, saved and enlightened by God's grace.

We serve God by serving others.

#### **Prelude**

#### Welcome and Announcements

## **Confession and Forgiveness** (Read Responsively)

- P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P 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.
- C Amen.
- P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Merciful God,
- C 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.

## **Confession Song**

Gather Us In

Hymnal #532

(printed on p. 13 of this bulletin)

- P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and 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 of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

#### \*Lighting of the Advent Candle

P We praise you, O God, for this circle of light that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the candles on this wreath, kindle within us the fire of your Spirit, that we may be light shining in the darkness. Enlighten us with your grace, that we may welcome others as you have welcomed us. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

#### C Amen.

2 Candles Are Lit

#### \*Congregational Response

Hymn

*Wait for the Lord* 

Hymnal #262, sing 3 times (printed on p. 14 this bulletin)

#### \*Prayer of the Day

P Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

#### C Amen.

#### The Word

## First Reading: Malachi 3:1-4

God announces a covenant with Israel. A messenger like Malachi (his name means "my messenger") will prepare the way for the coming of the Lord by purifying and refining God's people, as silver and gold are refined.

<sup>1</sup>See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>2</sup>But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; 3he will sit as a refiner and

purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. <sup>4</sup>Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

- L The Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Luke 1:68-79 (Congregation will read verses in BOLD type.)

68"Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.

<sup>69</sup>He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David,

<sup>70</sup>as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,

71that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us.

<sup>72</sup>Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors, and has remembered his holy covenant,

<sup>73</sup>the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us <sup>74</sup>that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear, <sup>75</sup>in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

<sup>76</sup>And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,

<sup>77</sup>to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins.

<sup>78</sup>By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us,

<sup>79</sup>to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace."

- L The Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

#### Second Reading: Philippians 1:3-11

The apostle Paul was the pastor of many new churches. He writes in this letter about his joy to be in partnership with the Christians of Philippi. Listen to how tender-hearted Paul, sometimes a stern preacher, is with his friends as he encourages them to grow in love and knowledge.

<sup>3</sup>I thank my God every time I remember you, <sup>4</sup>constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, <sup>5</sup>because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup>I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. <sup>8</sup>For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. <sup>9</sup>And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight <sup>10</sup>to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, <sup>11</sup>having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

- L The Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

#### \*Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia Verse

Hymnal p. 142

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

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

## \*Gospel Reading: Luke 3: 1-6

John the Baptist is a herald of Jesus, whose way is prepared by "repentance for the forgiveness of sins." As we hear the careful record of human leaders, we sense the spectrum of political and religious authority that will be challenged by this coming Lord.

<sup>1</sup>In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the

region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, <sup>2</sup>during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, <sup>4</sup>as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. <sup>5</sup>Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; <sup>6</sup>and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

- P The Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

<u>Sermon</u> - Pastor Dan Forsgren

\*Hymn of the Day

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

Hymnal #249

(printed on p. 15 this bulletin)

\*Confession of Faith

Nicene Creed

- P With the whole church, let us confess our faith.
- C We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### **Prayers of the People**

A You send messengers into the world to proclaim the day of your coming. Make our bishops, pastors, deacons, and lay preachers confident in their preaching, that their words and our lives witness to your grace. Hear us, O God.

#### C Your mercy is great.

A Send your Spirit to all living creatures that are endangered. Provide them with shelter and care and bring us into right relationship with the earth that you create and call good. Hear us, O God.

## C Your mercy is great.

A Send leaders to our nations, cities, schools, and businesses to work on behalf of those who have lost parents, spouses, and loved ones; immigrants; the imprisoned; those living in poverty; and all who are oppressed. Make them bold in their commitments to justice and reconciliation. Hear us, O God.

## C Your mercy is great.

A Send your servants to care for those who suffer. Use our ministries and our lives to reach out with compassion to those who are hungry, oppressed, lonely, or ill, especially Tim Brunelle, Terry Fairchild, Robyn Fairchild, JoAnn Shimamoto, Ken Amundson, Karalee Shenfield, Kevin Holloway, Jonnie Dempsey, Sara Ripley, Janet Wilbanks, Dave Nordby, Carol Price, Donna Cedervall, Phyllis

Bacon, Lee Ray, Marion Keating, Sally English, Delores Luttropp, Mavis Fuchs, and Susan Kirkpatrick. Grant them healing and wholeness. Hear us, O God.

### C Your mercy is great.

A Send prophets to speak difficult truths, even when they are poorly received.

Embolden those who ask hard questions and challenge accepted ways. Instill in youth and elders alike a passion for pointing to Jesus in all things. Hear us, O God.

#### C Your mercy is great.

- A For what else do the people of God celebrate and pray?
- P God of new life, you come among us in the places we least expect. Receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus.
- C Amen.

## **Sharing the Peace**

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C And also with you.

## **Offering**

## **Musical Offering**

#### **Offering Prayer**

- P God of our waiting and watching, we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of all your people. Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal, through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace.
- C Amen.
- \*Great Thanksgiving (Congregation will sing verses in BOLD print.) Hymnal p. 144

  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.

#### The Preface

P 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. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. 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:

C Holy, Holy, Holy Hymnal p. 144

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might, heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

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

#### **Words of Institution**

P Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

- C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
- P With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

- C Come, Lord Jesus.
- P Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.
- C Come, Holy Spirit.
- P All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

#### C Amen.

## The 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.

#### **Invitation to Communion**

Lamb of God Hymnal p. 146

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.

#### The Lord's Supper

We celebrate together the Meal of Grace. The Lord is Host. We are the Guests. All are invited to the Table to feast in the promise of Jesus to be present in the bread and cup. Grape juice (light liquid) and gluten-free wafers are available by asking a server. The communion cups will be pre-filled and placed in trays with every other space left open to allow you to take without touching neighboring cups. Bread will be pre-cut. You will walk up to the altar steps to receive bread and wine, with no kneeling at the front. Communion servers will wear masks and gloves.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say:

The body of Christ given for you The blood of Christ shed for you And you may respond: **Amen** 

## **Post-Communion Prayer**

- P Most High God, you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest.
- C Amen.

#### **Blessing**

- P 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.
- C Amen.

## \*Sending Hymn

Rejoice, Rejoice Believers

Hymn #244

(printed on p. 16 this bulletin)

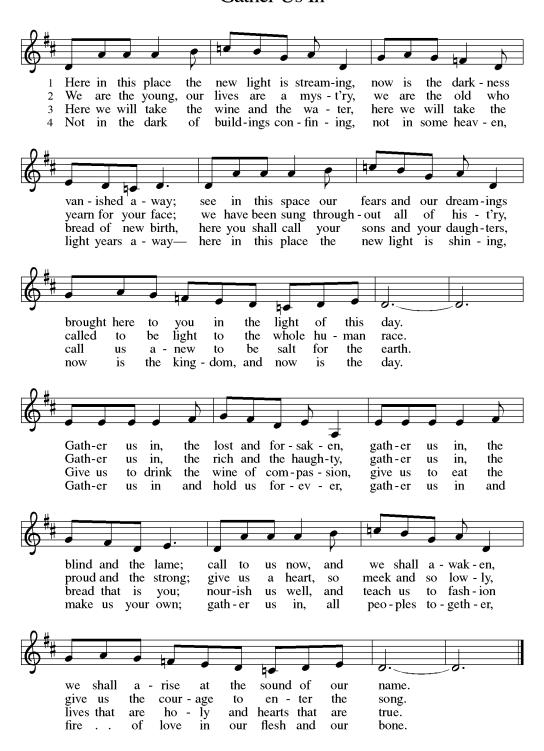
## \*Dismissal

P Go in peace. Christ is near.

C Thanks be to God.

## \*Postlude

#### Gather Us In

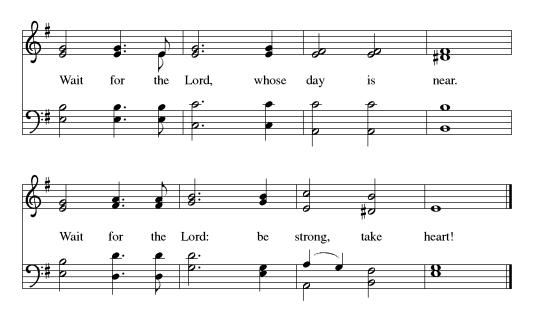


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# Sing 3 times

## Wait for the Lord



Text: Taizé Community
Music: WAIT FOR THE LORD, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994
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## On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry



Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. composite Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621

#### Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers



Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907 Music: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG, Swedish folk tune