



December 8, 2024

10:00 am

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Facebook Live/Virtual

www.facebook.com/HTLCBellerose

We are blessed that you
have joined us today.

Notes on worship:

BOLD type = people of God =You

Regular type = leader

Italic type = directions or explanations

Introduction to the Day



Forerunners and messengers advance the advent of our God. While John the baptizer's voice in the wilderness may be the principal focus of the day, Malachi's prophecy could as easily herald the coming Christ as forerunner of the Lord of hosts. Finally all the baptized are called to participate in the sharing of the gospel. In so doing we prepare the way for the coming of Jesus and assist all people in capturing a vision of the "salvation of God."

WELCOME

Welcome to worship at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Bellerose! We are so glad that you are here to worship with us either in person or online. If you are seeking a church to call home, welcome and we hope you find the comfort of Christ's Beloved Community here. If Pastor Analyse or the Prayer Team can provide any care for you at present, please reach out in person or at pastoranalyse@holytrinitybellerose.org or the church office at office@holytrinitybellerose.org.

~Please stand as you are able~

CONFESS AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, **☩** one God, alive in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy,

we confess that we have sinned.

We trust earthly powers and human authority alone.

We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.

God of might,

we confess that we have sinned.

We have turned away from our neighbors.

We have trusted false promises.

God in our midst,

we confess that we have sinned.

We plead: come to us.

Bring your mercy to birth in us.

A righteous branch springs forth:

it is Christ the Lord, our Savior,

in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy.

By the power of the Holy Spirit,

receive the grace and forgiveness of God

through **☩** Christ Jesus,

whose day draws near.

~Please be seated~

Lighting of the Advent Wreath + Peace

Today we light the candle of peace. This year we have prayed for peace. This year we have prayed in peace: That people will find common ground. That nations will stop harming their citizens. That all who struggle with illness and fear will find calm. Today we pray with peace! We know God is with us in moments of peace and unrest. We know God is with us.

Amen.

Light the second candle.

~Please stand as you are able~

WREATH LIGHTING HYMN ELW 257 vs 1

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

1. **O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.**

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

2 **Oh, come, oh, come, great Lord of might, who to your tribes on Sinai's height in ancient times once gave the law in cloud, and majesty, and awe.**

Refrain

GATHERING HYMN ELW 246 vs. 1, 4, & 5

Rejoice, Rejoice Believers

1 **Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding!
"Christ is near," we hear it say.
"Cast away the works of darkness,
all you children of the day!"**

4 **So, when next he comes in glory
and the world is wrapped in fear,
he will shield us with his mercy
and with words of love draw near.**

5 **Honor, glory, might, and blessing
to the Father and the Son
with the everlasting Spirit
while unending ages run!**

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

W&P #36

Emmanuel

**Emmanuel, Emmanuel,
his name is called Emmanuel;
God with us, revealed in us;
his name is called Emmanuel.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray

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..

Amen.

~Please be seated~

FIRST READING Malachi 3:1-4 NRSV

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.

The first reading is from Malachi beginning at the 3rd chapter.

¹ 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. ² 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; ³ he 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. ⁴ Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Luke 1:68-79 NRSV

We will now read responsively from Luke.

⁶⁸ Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel,
you have come to your people and set them free.

⁶⁹ You have raised up for us a mighty Savior, born of the house of your servant David.

⁷⁰ Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us from our enemies,

⁷¹ from the hands of all who hate us,

**72 to show mercy to our forebears,
and to remember your holy covenant.**

73 This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham: **74** to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

free to worship you without fear, ⁷⁵ holy and righteous before you, all the days of our life.

76 And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,

77 to give God's people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins.

78 In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

79 to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

SECOND READING Philippians 1:3-11 NRSV

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.

The second reading is from Philippians beginning at the 1st chapter.

3 I thank my God every time I remember you, **4** constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, **5** because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. **6** 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. **7** 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. **8** For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. **9** And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight **10** to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, **11** having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

~Please stand as you are able~

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW 262

Wait for the Lord

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart!

THE HOLY GOSPEL Luke 3:1-6 NRSV

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.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke beginning at the 3rd chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord

1 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, **2** during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. **3** He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, **4** 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. **5 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;**

6 and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ

~Please be seated~

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

~Please stand as you are able~

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 266 vs 1&4

All Earth is Hopeful

1 All earth is hopeful, the Savior comes at last!**Furrows lie open for God's creative task: this, the labor of people who struggle to see how God's truth and justice set ev'rybody free.****4 We first saw Jesus a baby in a crib. This same Lord Jesus today has come to live in our world; he is present, in neighbors we see our Jesus is with us, and ever sets us free.****THE NICENE CREED**

Let us confess our faith saying the words of the Nicene Creed.

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; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.****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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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.*****~Please remain standing as you desire, otherwise please be seated~*****PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

A brief silence.Refining God, move through your church. Root out practices that harm your people, and kindle a fire for sharing the gospel among bishops, pastors, deacons, and all the baptized. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**Renewing God, transform your creation. Steer us from habits that harm what you have made, and guide us in practices that preserve and restore creatures and habitats. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**Ruling God, teach the nations your ways. Strengthen organizations and communities that broker peace and care for refugees, immigrants, and all caught in the center of conflict. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**Rescuing God, restore your people who are in any need. Heal all who are suffering especially *Bob Sarro, Janice Rajgopaul, Susan Henyan, Eugene Calamari, Loren Nouza, Ed Unz, Maureen Span, Athena Guarreillo, Peter Stiefel, Ruth Loomis, Betsy Sommerlatte and Lorcan Nouza*. Provide comfort and strength, and nurture sustained wholeness for the future. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**Reforming God, fill this congregation with your presence. Enrich our seasonal preparations, and bless the efforts by worship committees, music ensembles, staff, clergy, and lay leaders as they work in the weeks ahead. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Reforming God, You call us into a deeper relationship to be your church for the sake of the world. Help us to see with new eyes the injustices within church and society. Call us to have a loving heart that respects and uplifts the humanity and

dignity of every person; open our ears to listen to and learn from the experiences of people of color. Open our mouths to speak up and about injustices. Join us with others to work for racial equity and inclusion for all people. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Reassuring God, we remember those who have died and rest in you. Guide us in deep gratitude for their life, and allow us to learn from their faithful witness. Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always!

And also with you!

Let us share Christ's peace with one another.

~Please be seated~

OFFERING

~Please stand as you are able~

OFFERTORY HYMN ELW #247 vs 1 & 2
Come Now, O Prince of Peace

1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one body.

Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile your people.

2 Come now, O God of love, make us one body.

Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile your people.

~Please stand as you are able~

OFFERING PRAYER

Creator God,
you made the whole world,
even the farthest stars,
and you draw near to feed us.
We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine.
Strengthen us with this food
that we may live in expectation
for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **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.

PREFACE

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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might; Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the highest.

EUCARISTIC PRAYER

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.
Remembering, therefore, his birth and life among us, his death and resurrection, we await his coming again when all things will be restored in him.

By your Spirit bless us and this bread and cup, that, held and nourished by you, we may live as your children, shining with the light of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your
holy Church, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach
us to pray:

**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.**

~Please be seated~

COMMUNION

All are welcome to the Lord's Table. We receive communion in the form of a wafer and a small cup of wine or grape juice. Please tell the ushers if you need the bread and wine brought to you. If you are not yet receiving communion, or do not wish to receive today, please come forward and cross your arms over your chest to receive a blessing. Follow the usher's directions.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

God feeds us with tender mercy.
Come to the table.

COMMUNION HYMN ELW #631 v. 1-3

Love Devine, All Loves Excelling

1 **Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter ev'ry trembling heart.**

2 **Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit
into ev'ry troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit;
let us find thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning,
set our hearts at liberty.**

3 **Come, Almighty, to deliver;
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without
ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.**

~Please stand as you are able~

TABLE BLESSING & COMMUNION PRAYER

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen

Let us pray.

Generous God,
we thank you for the gift of life,
for the bread of salvation.
We thank you for coming among us,
for leading us into peace.
We thank you for showering us with mercy,
for sending us into the world.
Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us
as we feed the hungry in your name.
Amen.

~Please be seated~

ANNOUNCEMENTS

~Please stand as you are able~

BLESSING

God of endings and beginnings,
God in the darkness and the light,
God, our hope for the journey,
☩ bless and keep you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN ELW #239 v. 1, 2 & 4

Hark, The Glad Sound!

- 1 **Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes,
the Savior promised long;
let ev'ry heart prepare a throne
and ev'ry voice a song.**
- 2 **He comes the pris'ners to release,
in Satan's bondage held.
The gates of brass before him burst,
the iron fetters yield.**

4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace,
your welcome shall proclaim,
and heav'n's eternal arches ring
with your beloved name.

DISMISSAL

What is our Mission? **Welcoming all to grow in faith; living Christ's message of serving and loving neighbors near and far.**

Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.
Thanks be to God.

***Thank you for worshipping
with us today.***

We are blessed by your presence.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMING EVENTS

IN PERSON SERVICES every Sunday Live and via Facebook Live @ 10:00 am. You don't have to belong to Facebook to watch. Video will also be available on our interactive bulletin at: holytrinitybellerose.wordpress.com.

COUNCIL MEETING

Next meeting: December 10th @ 7:30 pm.

ADVENT BIBLE STUDY

Our Advent Bible Study *More Than Words* will begin **Monday, December 2nd**. Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Books are \$15.

PIANO FUNDRAISER

Holy Trinity has a new Grand Piano! If you would like to donate towards the cost of paying it off, and invest in Holy Trinity's music ministry please put your donation in a "Keys of Grace" envelope, located periodically in your bulletin and on the table in the narthex.

HOLY TRINITY'S CENTENNIAL

Holy Trinity turns 100 in 2026! If you would like to be on the planning committee to organize celebrations throughout the year, please sign up on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

WOMEN'S GROUP CHRISTMAS DINNER

The Women's Group Christmas Dinner will be on **Wednesday, December 18th, at 6:00pm**

at Salvatore's of Elmont. If you wish to attend, please **sign up by December 11th** on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

CHURCH MERCHANDISE

We have a webstore! As a certified non-profit Holy Trinity receives money back for every item

purchased. Purchase Holy Trinity shirts, hats, mugs etc. by visiting

[https://www.bonfire.com/store/holy-trinity-lutheran-church-merch/
YOUTH GROUP](https://www.bonfire.com/store/holy-trinity-lutheran-church-merch/YOUTH GROUP)

The youth meet twice a month on the first and third Saturday's from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm for 2 - 8 grades and 7:30 pm – 9:30 pm for 9th grade and up. Contact Diane Gilroy for more information.

ALTAR GUILD

Looking for volunteers to help Denice, Joe, & Pastor Analyse with Altar Guild responsibilities.

WOMEN'S GROUP

This group is women getting together to discuss relevant topics and books, spend time uplifting and supporting each other. Meetings are on the third Wednesday of each month from 7-9 pm. All are welcome. Any questions contact Carol Robinson or Denice Watkins.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

All positions available. Learn a new skill. The video camera is really user friendly. See Pastor Analyse for additional information.

YOGA PRACTICE

Yoga, Thursdays, at 7 pm in the Friendship Hall. One hour for only \$10. Contact Carol Robinson, 917-208-7340, for additional information.

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

Our Giving Tree in the Narthex has some new foliage! As we give thanks for all that we have this month help us also give to **Midnight Run** up an ornament from the tree and help those in need celebrate the holidays.

DECEMBER CELEBRATIONS

9	Laura Stiefel
13	Jean Klarman
16	Ruth Nouza
16	Rebecca Knoetig
29	Tiffany & Don Hanratty
30	Carol & Tony Albasini
30	Nancy Aragona

2024 Advent & Christmas Schedule

Fri., Dec. 20th + Blue Christmas
At Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
7:00 pm

Tues., Dec. 24th + Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service
8:00 pm



Sun., Dec. 22nd + Christmas Pageant
10:00 am during Worship

Sun., Dec. 29th + Lessons & Carols
10:00 am during Worship.

HOLY TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Olivia Lu	Organist
Jean Klarman	Musician
Tatyana Rajbali	Assisting Minister
Jean Klarman	Reader
Sue Scala	Usher & Communion Assistant
Ken Henyan	Usher
Kristian Persad	Video

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