

# Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

## Service of Holy Communion

January 8, 2023

*(Note: All wording for the liturgy and hymns will appear on our large monitor screens just above the altar area.)*

### WELCOME

### CHILDREN'S SERMON

### PRELUDE

### NEW YEAR'S DAY LITANY

By Fran Pratt

P: Faithful God, we look back on the year behind us and appreciate Your presence with us, through it. We look ahead at the year before us with hope, and anticipate Your continuing love and the fulfillment of your promises.

P: In this new year, grant that we may become more faithful...

**C: more committed to your kingdom work  
more knowledgeable of your ways  
more familiar with your spirit  
more pliant to your instruction  
more willing to give of ourselves to others.**

P: We pray for increase...

**C: of love  
of storehouses full of good things to share  
of relational harmony and peace  
of health  
of meaningful work  
of balance among work, play, and rest  
of personal growth and wisdom  
of grateful hearts,  
and most of all, of your presence and power among us.**

P: May we hear your voice more clearly, and heed it.

**C: May we be aware of the limits of our understanding, and work to expand them.**

P: May the words of Christ dwell in us richly.

**C: May we be vigilant for those around us who are in need and tend to them.**

P: May we hear your voice more clearly, and heed it.

C: **May we be aware of the limits of our understanding, and work to expand them.**

P: May the words of Christ dwell in us richly.

C: **May we be vigilant for those around us who are in need and tend to them.**

P: May we experience anew the rebirth and resurrection life of Jesus.

C: **May we complete the tasks you set before us, love well those souls you give to our care, and make good use of the time we are given on the earth.  
We are grateful for Your love, kindness, and care.  
Amen.**

P: May the God of Peace bless us all as we embark on the first day of a new week, the first day of a new month, and the first day of a new year. Amen!

**+HYMN                      Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning #84**

1            Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,  
              dawn on our darkness and lend us your aid.  
              Star of the East, the horizon adorning,  
              guide where our infant redeemer is laid.

2            Cold on his cradle the dewdrops are shining;  
              low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;  
              angels adore him in slumber reclining,  
              maker and monarch and savior of all.

### **APOSTOLIC GREETING**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.  
Worthy is the Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us  
free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and  
strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his.  
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.  
sing with all the people of God and join in the  
hymn of all creation: Blessing and honor and glory and  
might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.  
This is the feast of victory for our God, for the lamb who was slain  
Has begun his reign. Alleluia, Alleluia.

**+ PRAYER OF THE DAY**

- P:** O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him  
your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all  
who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your  
daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you  
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C:** **Amen.**

## SCRIPTURE READING

### Isaiah 42:1-9

*God's servant is endowed with God's spirit in order to bring justice to the nations. The servant will not exercise authority boisterously or with violence, nor will weariness ever prevent the fulfilling of the servant's task. God's old promises have been fulfilled; the servant's new assignment is to bring light to the nations.*

<sup>1</sup>Here is my servant, whom I uphold,  
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;  
I have put my spirit upon him;  
he will bring forth justice to the nations.

<sup>2</sup>He will not cry or lift up his voice,  
or make it heard in the street;

<sup>3</sup>a bruised reed he will not break,  
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;  
he will faithfully bring forth justice.

<sup>4</sup>He will not grow faint or be crushed  
until he has established justice in the earth;  
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

<sup>5</sup>Thus says God, the LORD,  
who created the heavens and stretched them out,  
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,  
who gives breath to the people upon it  
and spirit to those who walk in it:

<sup>6</sup>I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness,  
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;  
I have given you as a covenant to the people,  
a light to the nations,

<sup>7</sup>to open the eyes that are blind,  
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,  
from the prison those who sit in darkness.

<sup>8</sup>I am the LORD, that is my name;  
my glory I give to no other,  
nor my praise to idols.

<sup>9</sup>See, the former things have come to pass,  
and new things I now declare;  
before they spring forth,  
I tell you of them.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

#83

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

## GOSPEL READING

### Matthew 3:13-17

*Before Jesus begins his ministry, he is baptized by John, touched by the Spirit, and identified publicly as God's child.*

<sup>13</sup>Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup>John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" <sup>15</sup>But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. <sup>16</sup>And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. <sup>17</sup>And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

**SERMON** "Washed, Anointed and Named"

**HYMN** O Jesus, I Have Promised

**#503**

- 1 O Jesus, I have promised  
to serve you to the end;  
remain forever near me,  
my master and my friend.  
I shall not fear the battle  
if you are by my side,  
nor wander from the pathway  
if you will be my guide.
- 2 Oh, let me feel you near me;  
the world is ever near.  
I see the sights that dazzle,  
the tempting sounds I hear.  
My foes are ever near me,  
around me and within;  
but, Jesus, then draw nearer  
to shield my soul from sin.
- 4 O Jesus, you have promised  
to all who follow you  
that where you are in glory  
your servant shall be too.  
And Jesus, I have promised  
to serve you to the end;  
oh, give me grace to follow,  
my master and my friend.

## +THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the  
dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## OFFERING

### OFFERTORY

#86

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
Blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we  
may be  
Fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all;  
unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your  
presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Liberating God,  
you break the bonds of injustice  
and let the oppressed go free.  
Receive these offerings in thanksgiving  
for all your works of merciful power,  
and shape us as people of your justice and freedom.  
You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior,  
C: Amen.

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION** *"In the night in which he was betrayed..."*

## 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.

## LAMB OF GOD

#92

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, grant us peace.

## DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

### + POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Holy One,  
we thank you for the healing  
that springs forth abundantly from this table.  
Renew our strength to do justice,  
love kindness,  
and journey humbly with you.

C: **Amen.**

### + BENEDICTION

P: The God who faithfully brings forth justice  
and breaks the oppressor's rod  
✠ bless, strengthen, and uphold you,  
today and always.

C: **Amen.**

**+ SENDING HYMN      Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling**

- 1    Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,  
      calling for you and for me.  
      See, on the portals he's waiting and watching,  
      watching for you and for me.

*Refrain*

"Come home, (Come home,  
come home! (come home!)  
You who are weary, come home."  
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,  
calling, "O sinner, come home!"

- 2    Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading,  
      pleading for you and for me?  
      Why should we linger and heed not his mercies,  
      mercies for you and for me? *Refrain*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**+THE DISMISSAL**

- P:        Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.  
C:        **Thanks be to God.**

## Weekly Announcements

### Serving Today (1/8)

**Lector:** Carol Schutz **Video:** Don Gulliksen  
**Usher:** Barbara Samuelsen **Altar Guild:** Carol DeMeo  
**Communion Assistant:** Carol DeMeo & Lisa Bischer  
**CPIC:** Lisa Bischer **Counters:** Carol Schutz & Joan Cosgrove  
**Offering:** Lisa Bischer & Matt Maitilasso

### Serving Next Week (1/15)

**Lector:** Marga Conn **Video:** Don Gulliksen  
**Usher:** Barbara Samuelsen **Altar Guild:** Carol DeMeo  
**Communion Assistant:** Carol DeMeo & Lisa Bischer  
**CPIC:** Lisa Bischer **Counters:** Carol Schutz & Joan Cosgrove  
**Offering:** Shannon & Kurt Leifken

**Want to use our church building for your group or organization? Please submit your request(s) to our Congregation Council** in writing or in email form to our President Joan Cosgrove at least one month in advance of intended building usage. Joan's email is: [kikkired@verizon.net](mailto:kikkired@verizon.net) Groups are required to complete a Building Usage Agreement form and provide proof of liability insurance coverage listing Holy Trinity as "additionally insured".

**Special thanks to our guest musician for today:** Jennifer Foose. We thank her for sharing her gift of music with us.

**Lunch & Learn Adult Bible Study will be offered again on 1/18 at noon, in-person and via ZOOM conferencing.** Please contact Pastor Jack ([jackspartan79@gmail.com](mailto:jackspartan79@gmail.com)) about the ZOOM link.

**Our annual "Souper Bowl" of Caring** (food collection) is coming soon! Watch future bulletins for details.

**Did you know that Congregation Council meetings are open to the general public?** Non-Council visitors may have voice, but not vote as per our Constitution. Come see what your leaders are up to lately! The meetings are conducted monthly on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm in the choir room.

**Communion Note:** The communion trays are configured in a certain way. Cups containing grape juice are in the center of the tray, and cups containing wine are near the edges of each serving tray.

**Lectors (readers on Sunday mornings)** are needed and appreciated. Read the assigned Scripture for the day! Sign up sheets are located in the rear of the sanctuary, or ask Pastor Jack for details: [jackspartan79@gmail.com](mailto:jackspartan79@gmail.com)

**RISE UP is collecting toiletries to aid our locals.** Did you know that food stamps do not cover basic toiletry items like soap and shampoo? Please donate items in the special bin located in our church vestibule. For more information, contact Angela Bloshuk at 973-476-0101 or email her at: [riseupangela@gmail.com](mailto:riseupangela@gmail.com)

**Want to give electronically?** 40% of our offerings now come in via electronic giving sources. To learn more, simply go to our web page at [www.rockawaylutheran.org](http://www.rockawaylutheran.org) and click on the "donate" button. . . then follow the simple instructions. Regular offerings (with date and frequency of your choice) as well as one-time gifts can be established electronically. All transactions are confidential.

### **Collections Update-**

**Winter hats, mittens, gloves, and scarves** are now being collected.

**For more information of these various clothing collections** please contact Ellen Crane (973-625-1353).

**Please note:** Any clothing other than sweaters and flannel shirts should be deposited in our outside red clothing bin, located in the rear parking lot.

**Non-perishable food items** can be dropped off inside our front entrance vestibule. Please do not donate perishable goods, such as milk, eggs, bread, and cheese.