

Holy Trinity United Methodist Church

December 3, 2023

9:30am

Theme: How Does A Weary World Rejoice?

If you have a prayer request today, please fill out the card in your pew rack and hand it to an usher prior to the Prayers of the People.

Prelude

Welcome

*Song of Praise "People Look East" Hymnal 202

*Greeting

Leader: In God's house, we can be joyful.

People: We can be grateful. We can be hopeful.

Leader: In God's house, we can be weary.

People: We can be anxious. We can be grieving.

Leader: In God's house, we can be honest—

People: inspired or tired, delighted or doubtful, connected or curious, and everything in between.

Leader: This is God's house. You are welcome exactly as you are.

ALL: Let us worship our loving God.

The Lighting of the First Advent Candle The Anderson Family

Reader: How does a weary world hope?

Congregation: By telling stories of hope, by lighting candles in the night, and planting seeds in the winter that will bloom in the spring.

Reader: By praying for children as they grow, and picking up trash on the sidewalk.

Congregation: By insisting that small acts can make a difference.

Reader: There are a million ways to practice hope. So today we light the candle of hope as a reminder and a charge.

ALL: With God's help, may we bring hope into a weary world. Amen.

Opening Prayer (unison)

Loving God, the source of our joy, as we turn our hearts toward your Word, we ask that you would soften us. Soften the callouses on our hearts. Weave yourself in between the cracks in our spirits. And plant hope where there is room. And as you do this, like flowers toward the sun, we will turn ourselves toward you, eager to hear a Word so good that we cannot help but ask ourselves, "How can this be?" With openness and gratitude we pray. Amen.

Prayer Song "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" (vs 1) Hymnal 196

Prayers of the People/Our Lord's Prayer

Prayer Song "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" (vs 1) Hymnal 196

Gospel Reading Luke 1:1-23

Children's Message

*Hymn "God Almighty, We Are Waiting" W&S 3047

Sermon "We Acknowledge Our Weariness" Pastor Chad Gilbertson

*Hymn "What Feast of Love" W&S 3170

Holy Communion

(Please bring your offering and place it in the plate/basket on the front pew as you come forward to receive Communion.)

Announcements

*Benediction

Leader: Family of faith, as you leave this place, you go into a weary world— so speak tenderly.

People: We will do the good that is ours to do, choose connection, hold onto hope.

Leader: And remember that Christ took on flesh for you. You are God's beloved. So go rejoicing. The world needs it.

ALL: AMEN!

*Hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (vs 1) Hymnal 211

Postlude

Worship Leaders

Pastor: Chad Gilbertson
pastor@htumc.org
(952) 356-4616

Church Admin: Tina Chant
office@htumc.org
(952) 447-2990

Children, Youth & Family Coordinator:
Lynnette Dobberpuhl
kidsandfamilies@htumc.org
(651) 492-8188

Choir Director: Randi Erlandson
Pianist/Organist: Randi Erlandson
Liturgist: Vic Noer
Ushers: Cheri Miller & Rene Meyer

This Week:

Monday, Dec. 4	9:30am 7:00pm	AA (Parsonage) Al-Anon (Parsonage)
Tuesday, Dec. 5	1:00pm 7:00pm	Lakefront Bible Study Co-Dependents Anonymous (Parsonage)
Wednesday, Dec. 6	8:30am 6:15pm 7:00pm	Moment of Prayer for Holy Trinity 7th/8th Confirmation (Parsonage) Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, Dec. 7	6:00pm	Veterans AA (Parsonage)
Sunday, Dec. 10	9:30am	Worship/Live-Stream

Prayer Requests:

Liz W—prayers of comfort and help with a challenging situation.

Hannah Rose's Grandma—fell and hurt her arm. Please pray for healing.

Lynnette Dobberpuhl—sister Kerin will be undergoing surgery Dec. 6 to repair two discs that are causing severe pressure on her spinal cord. Please pray for her, her medical team and her family, that she receives relief from pain and a return to full health.

Connie Scott—grandson Jacob has bacterial encephalitis. They will meet with an infectious disease specialist for a treatment plan. It usually requires 14+ days of IV antibiotics. He is still having headaches and back pain from the spinal tap.

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16150 Arcadia Ave. SE
Prior Lake MN 55372
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