

Holy Trinity United Methodist Church

December 31, 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

*Songs of Praise	“Lord, I Lift Your Name on High” (sing twice)	TFWS 2088
	“He Is Born”	Hymnal 228

*Greeting

Leader: Every year we celebrate Christmas.

People: Every month we break bread.

Leader: Every week we gather for worship.

People: Every day we count our blessings.

Leader: Every minute God is near.

People: Yes, every minute God is near.

Leader: These are the rituals of our faith.

All: LET US WORSHIP HOLY GOD.

Opening Prayer (unison)

Gracious God, when our world turns upside down or when the road ahead is unclear, we return to ritual. We come to the sanctuary. We break bread at the table. We pour water. We greet one another as family. And we listen to your Word. Today we pray—meet us in this moment. Meet us in these rituals that anchor us and speak a word of hope. We are listening. We are drawing near. We are seeking you. Amen.

Prayer Song	“Jesus, Name Above All Names”	TFWS 2071
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Prayers of the People/Our Lord’s Prayer

Prayer Song	“Jesus, Name Above All Names”	TFWS 2071
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Gospel Reading	Luke 2:22-40
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Children’s Message

*Hymn	“What Child Is This” (vs. 1-2)	Hymnal 219
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Sermon	“We Root Ourselves in Ritual”	Pastor Chad Gilbertson
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*Hymn	“Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine”	TFWS 2099
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Offering/Offertory

Prayer of Dedication (unison)

Gracious God, thank you for the gifts of Christmas that bless us throughout the year. As we offer you our offering in gratitude and praise, we dedicate our labor, our industry, and our very lives to the building of your kingdom. May our gifts go forth to a world in need, as signs of your redemption and your hope. May we shine with your glory, that others may discover your saving love. In Christ’s name, we pray. AMEN.

Announcements

*Affirmation of Faith/Benediction

Leader: We believe that faith is a journey marked by rituals and rhythms.

People: We come to worship. We confess our sins. We pass the peace. We offer grace.

Leader: We hear the Word. We baptize children. We break the bread. And we tell the story of a loving God.

People: And through these sacred rituals, we are reminded: we are not alone. God is near, and we have work to do.

Leader: As we leave this place and later return, may this belief shape the rhythm of our lives.

ALL: AMEN!

*Hymn	“There’s a Song in the Air” (vs. 1)	Hymnal 249
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Postlude

Worship Leaders

Pastor: Chad Gilbertson
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(952) 356-4616

Church Admin: Tina Chant
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(952) 447-2990

Children, Youth & Family Coordinator:
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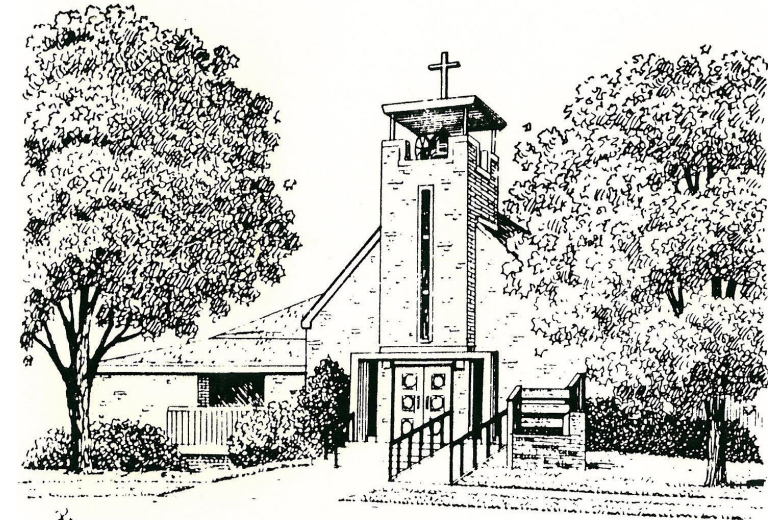
Choir Director: Randi Erlandson
Pianist/Organist: Sari Flatness
Liturgist: Sheila Posthumus
Ushers: Todd and Kelly Loose
Greeters: Lois Burkart and Sandy Feldhake

This Week:

Monday, Jan. 1	7:00pm	Al-Anon (Parsonage)
Tuesday, Jan. 2	1:00pm 7:00pm	Lakefront Bible Study Co-Dependents Anonymous (Parsonage)
Wednesday, Jan. 3	8:30am 6:15pm	Moment of Prayer for Holy Trinity 7th/8th Confirmation (Parsonage)
Thursday, Jan. 4	6:00pm	Veterans AA (Parsonage)
Sunday, Jan. 7	9:30am 10:30am	Worship/Live-Stream All Church Conference (Fellowship Hall)

Prayer Requests:

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