



TRINITY
STATEN ISLAND

Compline

FOR ADVENT
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2025 • 6:00 PM

Compline

about this community Trinity Lutheran Church is a diverse Christian community committed to sharing and teaching the Word of God. We welcome all people and serve to provide Christian education, witness and outreach. In response to God's grace, we are called to support and advocate for our dynamic community, care for others, worship God, develop leaders in our faith, and steward the gifts we have been given by God.

Our Values: Love + Community + Inclusion + Service + Creativity + Faithfulness + Learning

livestream notice To accommodate all our membership, and to provide outreach into the community, this service is being live streamed and made available on YouTube. By attending, you consent to any recording, and its release, publication, exhibition, or reproduction to be used for live streaming and/or any other publication, printed or electronic, of Trinity Lutheran Church.

today's worship Compline originates in the monastic traditions where monks and nuns would pray the services of the hours—specific times of prayer throughout the day and night meant to sanctify time and mark the rhythms of daily life with worship. Compline, traditionally the final prayer service of the day, is rooted in the practice of ending the day in quiet reflection, confession, and trust in God's protection through the night.

In the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), Compline has been adapted from its monastic roots into a form accessible to congregations and individuals alike. It is typically a brief, contemplative service held in the evening or before bedtime, often featuring elements such as Psalm readings, a short scripture passage, hymns and chants, a time for silent prayer, and spoken or sung prayers for protection during the night. The service includes the Song of Simeon, the Nunc Dimittis ("Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace"), echoing the theme of peaceful rest in God's presence.

At Trinity, Compline is offered every quarter, around the equinoxes and solstices, and is increasingly being revived in other churches as part of a broader interest in spiritual disciplines and liturgical practices. Its quiet, meditative character offers a space for stillness and reflection at the close of the day, rooted in centuries of Christian devotion.

Please silence all electronic devices before the service.

You are invited to participate throughout the service with the **bold** responses and in all hymns.

GATHERING

prelude Dilation on 'Es ist ein Ros'

Carson Cooman
(b. 1982)

welcome *Pr. Stephanie Jaeger*

introit Creator of the Stars of Night

John Scott
(1956-2015)

*Creator of the stars of night,
Thy people's everlasting light,
O Jesu, Saviour of us all,
Regard thy servants when they call.*

*Thou, grieving at the bitter cry
Of all creation doomed to die,
Didst come to save a ruined race
With healing gifts of heavenly grace.*

*Thou camest, Bridegroom of the
bride,
As drew the world to eventide,
Proceeding from a Virgin shrine,
The Son of Man, yet Lord divine.*

*At thy great name, majestic now,
All knees must bend, all hearts must bow;
And things in heaven and earth shall own
That thou art Lord and King alone.*

*To thee, O holy One, we pray,
Our judge in that tremendous day,
Preserve us, while we dwell below,
From every onslaught of the foe.*

*All praise, eternal Son, to thee,
Whose advent sets thy people free,
Whom, with the Father, we adore,
And Spirit blest, forevermore.
Amen.*

dialogue *Please stand for the Dialogue*

Officiant



The Lord Al-might-y grant us a peace-ful night and a per - fect end.

People



A - men.

Officiant



Our help is in the name - of the Lord;

People



The mak - er of heav'n - and earth.

Compline

prayer The one who made the Pleiades and Orion
and turns deep darkness into the morning
and darkens the day into night,
who calls for the water of the sea
and pours it out on the surface of the earth,
the Lord is his name.

Amen.

gathering hymn “As the Dark Awaits the Dawn” (ELW 261)

*the choir processes
to the front of the sanctuary
as candles are lit*

1 As the dark a - waits the dawn,
2 As the blue ex - pec - tant hour
3 As the moon re - flects the sun
4 Shine your fu - ture on this place,

so we a - wait your light. O Star of
be - fore the sil - v'ring skies, we long to
un - til the night's de - crease, may we your
en - light - en ev - 'ry guest, that through us

prom - ise, scat - ter night, lov - ing bright, lov - ing
see your day a - rise, whole and wise, whole and
heal - ing light re - lease, liv - ing peace, liv - ing
stream your ho - li - ness, bright and blest, bright and

bright, till shades of fear are gone.
wise, O lu - cent Morn - ing Star.
peace, un - to your ho - ly dawn.
blest; come dawn, O Sun of grace.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, 1953-2021
Music: Carl F. Schalk, 1929-2021

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

A moment of silence is observed

I confess to God Almighty,
before the whole company of heaven,
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have sinned by my own fault
in thought, word, and deed.

I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me,
forgive me all my sins,
and bring me to everlasting life.

Almighty and merciful God
grant you healing, pardon,
and forgiveness of all your sins. Amen.

I confess to God Almighty,
before the whole company of heaven,
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have sinned by my own fault
in thought, word, and deed.

I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me,
forgive me all my sins,
and bring me to everlasting life.

Almighty and merciful God
grant you healing, pardon, and
forgiveness of all your sins. Amen.

Please be seated

WORD

psalm 27 *The choir chants the Psalm*

¹The LORD is my light and my salvation;
— whom then shall I fear?

²The LORD is the strength of my life;
of whom then shall I be afraid?

³When evildoers came upon me to eat up my flesh,
it was they, my foes and my adversaries, who stumbled and fell.

⁴Though an army should encamp against me,
yet my heart shall not be afraid;

⁵And though war should rise up against me,
yet will I put my trust in him.

⁶One thing have I asked of the LORD; one thing I seek:
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my
life;

⁷To behold the fair beauty of the LORD
and to seek him in his temple.

⁸For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe in his shelter;
he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling
and set me high upon a rock.

⁹Even now he lifts up my head
above my enemies round about me.

¹⁰Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation
with sounds of great gladness;
I will sing and make music to the LORD.

¹¹Hearken to my voice, O LORD, when I call;
have mercy on me and answer me.

¹²You speak in my heart and say, “Seek my face;”
Your face, LORD, will I seek.

¹³Hide not your face from me,
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.

¹⁴You have been my helper; cast me not away;
do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.

¹⁵Though my father and my mother forsake me,
the LORD will sustain me.

*The choir chants the psalm
seated as would be done in
monastic settings—symbolizing
the unity of the choir and the
congregation and
communicating that all the choir
sings is on behalf of the
congregation.*

¹⁶Show me your way, O LORD;
lead me on a level path, because of my enemies.

¹⁷Deliver me not into the hand of my adversaries,
for false witnesses have risen up against me,
and also those who speak malice.

¹⁸What if I had not believed
that I should see the goodness of the LORD
in the land of the living!

¹⁹O tarry and await the LORD's pleasure;
be strong, and he shall comfort your heart;
wait patiently for the LORD.

scripture reading **Isaiah 40: 28-31**

²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The Lord is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.

²⁹He gives power to the faint
and strengthens the powerless.

³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted,

³¹but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;
they shall run and not be weary;
they shall walk and not faint.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Compline

hymn "There's a Voice in the Wilderness Calling" (ELW 255)

1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a
 2 O Je - ru - sa - lem, her - ald good tid - ings, as -
 3 But the word of our Sav - ior is faith - ful, the

call from the ways un - trod: Pre - pare in the des - ert a
 cend to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late
 arm of our God is strong, who stands in the midst of the

high - way, a high - way for our God!
 peo - ple the com - ing of their king.
 na - tions and soon will right the wrong.

The val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the
 Like flow'rs of the field we per - ish, like
 Lord, feed your flock like a shep - herd, the

loft - y hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed
 grass our works de - cay; the pow'r and the pomp of
 lambs so gent - ly hold; in pas - tures of peace now

plac - - es where God, our God, may go!
 na - - tions shall pass like a dream a - way.
 lead them, and bring them to your fold.

Text: Stephanie K. Frey, b. 1952, alt., based on the Magnificat
 Music: Heinrich Schütz, 1585–1672

scripture reading Romans 8:37-39

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.



Read by the lector

I am waiting for my case to come up
and I am waiting
for a rebirth of wonder
and I am waiting for someone
to really discover America
and wail
and I am waiting
for the discovery
of a new symbolic western frontier
and I am waiting
for the American Eagle
to really spread its wings
and straighten up and fly right
and I am waiting
for the Age of Anxiety
to drop dead
and I am waiting
for the war to be fought
which will make the world safe
for anarchy
and I am waiting
for the final withering away
of all governments
and I am perpetually awaiting
a rebirth of wonder

I am waiting for the Second Coming
and I am waiting
for a religious revival
to sweep thru the state of Arizona
and I am waiting
for the Grapes of Wrath to be stored
and I am waiting
for them to prove
that God is really American
and I am waiting
to see God on television
piped onto church altars
if only they can find
the right channel
to tune in on
and I am waiting

for the Last Supper to be served again
with a strange new appetizer
and I am perpetually awaiting
a rebirth of wonder

I am waiting for my number to be called
and I am waiting
for the Salvation Army to take over
and I am waiting
for the meek to be blessed
and inherit the earth
without taxes
and I am waiting
for forests and animals
to reclaim the earth as theirs
and I am waiting
for a way to be devised
to destroy all nationalisms
without killing anybody
and I am waiting
for linnets and planets to fall like rain
and I am waiting for lovers and weepers
to lie down together again
in a new rebirth of wonder

I am waiting for the Great Divide to be crossed
and I am anxiously waiting
for the secret of eternal life to be discovered
by an obscure general practitioner
and I am waiting
for the storms of life
to be over
and I am waiting
to set sail for happiness
and I am waiting
for a reconstructed Mayflower
to reach America
with its picture story and tv rights
sold in advance to the natives
and I am waiting
for the lost music to sound again
in the Lost Continent
in a new rebirth of wonder

Compline

I am waiting for the day
that maketh all things clear
and I am awaiting retribution
for what America did
to Tom Sawyer
and I am waiting
for Alice in Wonderland
to retransmit to me
her total dream of innocence
and I am waiting
for Childe Roland to come
to the final darkest tower
and I am waiting
for Aphrodite
to grow live arms
at a final disarmament conference
in a new rebirth of wonder

I am waiting
to get some intimations
of immortality
by recollecting my early childhood
and I am waiting
for the green mornings to come again
youth's dumb green fields come back again
and I am waiting
for some strains of unpremeditated art
to shake my typewriter
and I am waiting to write
the great indelible poem
and I am waiting
for the last long careless rapture
and I am perpetually waiting
for the fleeing lovers on the Grecian Urn
to catch each other up at last
and embrace
and I am awaiting
perpetually and forever
a renaissance of wonder

musical reflection Night of Silence

John Kantor

Natalia Paruz, musical saw
Leanne Surace, soloist

*Spirit among us,
Shine like the star,
Your light that guides shepherds and kings from afar.
Shimmer in the sky so empty, lonely,
Rising in the warmth of your Son's love.
Star unknowing of night and day,
Spirit, we wait for your loving Son.*

*Silent night, waiting night –
prophets claim distant sight.
Valleys lifted and mountains brought low,
promised to us in words long ago.*

*Comfort, comfort my children;
comfort, all of the world*

*The congregation is invited to sing the following text, to the tune of
Silent Night:*

**Silent night, waiting night –
dark we dwell, trusting light.
Unto us shall a child be born,
offring peace to a people forlorn –**

**Come, Emmanuel, come.
Come, Emmanuel, come!**

Compline

prayers

Officiant

In - to your hands, O Lord, I com-mend my spi - rit.

People

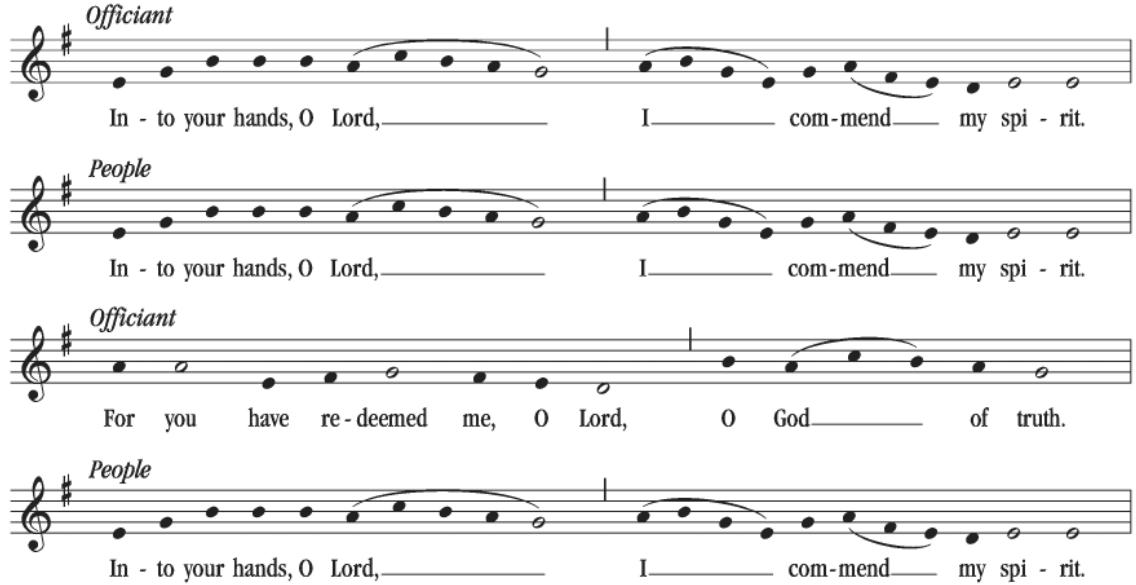
In - to your hands, O Lord, I com-mend my spi - rit.

Officiant

For you have re - deemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

People

In - to your hands, O Lord, I com-mend my spi - rit.



O Lord, support us all the day long of this troubled life, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then, in your mercy, grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

personal prayer and
mindfulness meditation

A sound bowl calls us into a time of prayer. We will begin with a guided mindfulness meditation. Following the meditation, you are invited into time for personal prayer. The prayer time will close again with the ringing of the sound bowl.



During personal prayer time, the choir sings the following

anthem Advent “O” Carol

Joanna Forbes L'Estrange
(b. 1971)

We long for your coming, O Lord.

*We long for your coming, O Wisdom;
teach us the way of understanding.
You are the living Word.*

*We long for you, O Lord and Ruler;
stretch out your arms and redeem us.
You are the living Word.*

*We long for you, O Root of Jesse;
come to deliver us and do not tarry.
You are the living Word.*

*We long for you, O Key of David;
bring forth the captive from his prison,
who sits in the shadow of death.*

*O Dawn of the East,
lighten those who sit in darkness
and in the shadow of death.*

*We long for you, O King of the Gentiles;
come and deliver man
whom you formed out of the dust of the earth.*

*O Emmanuel!
When will you come?
Come to us.*

*Save us, O Lord our God.
Tomorrow I will come.*

Compline

the lord's prayer *All chant the introduction and The Lord's Prayer*



Lord, remember us in your king - dom, and teach us to pray.

All continue chanting, despite being non-bold



Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,



your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.



Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we



for-give those who sin a-against us. Save us from the time of tri - al



and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,



and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

nunc dimittis

Latin:

*Nunc dimittis servum tuum, Domine,
secundum verbum tuum in pace:*

*Quia viderunt oculi mei salutare tuum,
quod parasti ante faciem omnium
populorum:*

*Lumen ad revelationem gentium,
et gloriam plebis tuae Israel.*

*Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto,
sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et
semper,
et in saecula saeculorum.
Amen.*

Paul Smith
(b. 1981)

English Translation:

*Lord, now lettest thou thy servant
depart in peace
according to thy word.*

*For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,
which thou hast prepared before the
face of all people:*

*A light to lighten the Gentiles,
and the glory of thy people Israel.*

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and
ever shall be,
world without end.
Amen.*

Please stand for the Blessing and Sending Hymn

blessing Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,
Keep our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus.
Amen.

Compline

closing hymn “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (ELW 257)

- 1 *Choir Only*
- 2 *Upper Voices*
- 3 *Lower Voices*
- 4 *All*

1 O come, O come, Em - man - - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's

Is - - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - - ile here
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
 Si - - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
 tyr - - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,

un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.

Em - man - - u - el shall come to you, O Is - - ra - el.

Text: *Psalteriolum Cantionum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite
 Music: French processional, 15th cent.

Candles are extinguished while the organ plays a postlude; the assembly is invited to stay and pray if they wish

postlude Nun Komm, Der Heiden Heiland

Johann Pachelbel
 (1653-1706)

IN OUR PRAYERS

Justin Solomon, Cindy Roberti, Pat Zulch, Sean Reardon, Lori Homan, Dianne Bombardi, Joseph Campitiello, Barbie Parker, Amy Fittapaldi, Vincent Pizzolo, Gonca Latif-Schmitt and her family, Rita Fowler, Josie Honus, David Dowling, Jörg and Madeline Dreusicke, Jasmine Drake, Joanna Smith, Perry Summerford, Denise Melious, Maria Alvarez Castro, Friends and Family of Phillip Herbst, Angel Luis Rios, Marlies Meyer, Glen Danischewski, Ronnie Bero, Mary Bruno, Pennington Family, Carmen Cognetta, Deacon Margaret Ann O'Donnell, Migdalia Jimenez, Jessica Desens, Edith Piazza, Alice Evensen, Sean C. Sweeney, Janet A. Cleary, George Turner, Christopher Jarrett, Meah Guzman, Carmen Aponte, and James Ciccolella

For those in our armed services, especially
Joshua Lentini, Sgt George E Turner, and the US Army

Compline

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
trinitylutheransi.org

PHYSICAL & MAILING ADDRESS
309 St. Paul's Avenue
Staten Island, NY 10304

OFFICE PHONE
(718) 447-0526

STAFF

REV. DR. STEPHANIE JAEGER
Pastor
spjaeger@tlcsi.org | (929) 314-6031

TRENT WHISENANT
Director of Music & Organist
twhisenant@tlcsi.org

PRISCILLA MARCO
Community Engagement Coordinator & Legal Counsel
pmarco@tlcsi.org

NANCY GRAY
Office Coordinator
ngray@tlcsi.org

CARA KAY
Youth and Family Coordinator & Administrative Assistant
ckay@tlcsi.org

BETHANY DAY
Wagner College Campus Minister
bday@tlcsi.org

WILLIAM COCHRAN
Sexton (Building Supervisor)
wcochran@tlcsi.org

CARI SANDERS
Communications Coordinator
communications@tlcsi.org

PEYTON BLOOM
Tech Manager

CHURCH COUNCIL
Kim Ryan (President), Marcia Lyles (Vice President), Roy Danischewski (Treasurer), Regina Pearsall (Secretary), Hillie Grossarth, Joyce LaMorte, Stephan Thimme, Ruth Saliski, Martha Echols, Danielle Buttacavoli, and Nancy Meisner Granda