# Tríníty Lutheran Church Brewster, NY



## December 24, 2023 9:30 AM



**WELCOME** as we gather in the name of God! Whether we are physically present with one another or gathering remotely, we know that Christ is truly present in our midst.

We welcome our visitors today. If you are looking for a church home and want to know more about living together as Christians, please contact Pastor Boyd during the week.

If you know of others who are in need of signs of God's love and grace, who are curious and/or questioning, who would like to experience the peace of Christ – please invite them to join us for worship in person or through our social media channels. They may also contact the church office (trinlutheranoffice@yahoo.com) and/or Pastor Jen (revjedyer1@yahoo.com).

You are invited to worship with us each week. There is a spoken inperson service on Thursdays at 12 noon and on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. as well as via Facebook Live on Trinity's Facebook page. Services may also be viewed on Comcast channel 21 at 11 am (note, they are a week behind). The service will be posted later on our YouTube page. The weekly bulletin is posted on our website:

 Website:
 http://trinitybrewsterny.org

 Facebook:
 https://www.facebook.com/Trinity-Lutheran-Church-Brewster-NY-160570420670756.

 YouTube:
 https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEBfzqqPTuf8fe3PiPr21gA?view\_as=subscriber

**PARENTS:** Please help your children follow the worship service, including standing up with the assembly. Thank you.

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#### **INTRODUCTION:**

Without fanfare, an angel announced the coming of a baby to Mary. While she waited, she took the opportunity to seek out her support community and prepare for the child's arrival.

## + GATHER +

**Prelude:** *"Wie schoen leuchtet der Morgenstern"* Georg Friedrich Kauffmann

#### Welcome and Announcements

THE ASSEMBLY STANDS

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Rejoice, rejoice, we sing praying for the gladness you promise as you come among us once again. Rejoice, rejoice in the midst of the shadows, when we least expect and when we are doing everything we can, you appear. In our worship today, may we experience your powerful presence, bringing love and joy to birth even here.

## CONFESSION

Humbly coming before you, precious Lord, we offer our whole selves, seeking your grace and hoping in your steadfast love

Silence for reflection and self-examination

Your faithfulness is from generation to generation, O God. When we have lost our way, or turned away, you have sought us out, in the least likely of places. We confess that sometimes we would prefer that you stayed in the box we built for you, keeping out of our affairs.

The systems we have built work for us, and you disrupt them with your insistence on lifting up the lowly and filling the hungry while sending the rich away empty. Forgive our self-centered ways, our narrow vision of justice and our restricted love. Show your strength and favor once again, and help us follow in your way, according to your promise. Amen.

## ABSOLUTION

The promise is sure: Christ's advent is near, and in Christ we are forgiven all our sin. Know that you are a beloved child of God, and be strengthened in all goodness given through the grace of the Father, and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Thanks be to God. Amen.** 

## GATHERING HYMN: Fling Wide the Door ELW 259

Fling wide the door, unbar the gate; The King of glory comes in state; The Lord of lords and King of kings, The Savior of the world who brings His great salvation to the earth. So raise a shout of holy mirth And praise our God and Lord, Creator, Spirit, Word.

He is the rock of our belief, The heart of mercy's gentle self. His kingly crown is holiness; His scepter is his loveliness; He brings our sorrows to an end. Now gladly praise our king and friend, And worship him with song For saving us from wrong. Oh, happy towns and blessed lands That live by their true king's commands. And blessed be the hearts he rules, The humble places where he dwells. He is the rightful Son of bliss, Who fills our lives and makes us his, Creator of the world, Our only strength for good.

Come, Lord, our Savior, Jesus Christ; Our hearts are open wide in trust. Oh, show us now your lovely grace, Upon our sorrows shine your face, And let your Holy Spirit guide Our journey in your grace so wide. We praise your holy name, From age to age the same!

Text: Georg Weissel, 1590-1635; tr. Gracia Grindal, b. 1943
Music: J. A. Freylinghausen, *Geistreiches Gesangbuch*, 1704; arr. hymnal version
Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress
Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress
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#### 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.

#### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH - Love

Can you hear it? **God speaks** through angel messengers, **through quiet whispers**, in the voices of others, **and in the nudges of our hearts.** Sometimes dramatic and sometimes subtle, **Love comes to us.** 

~candle may be lit~

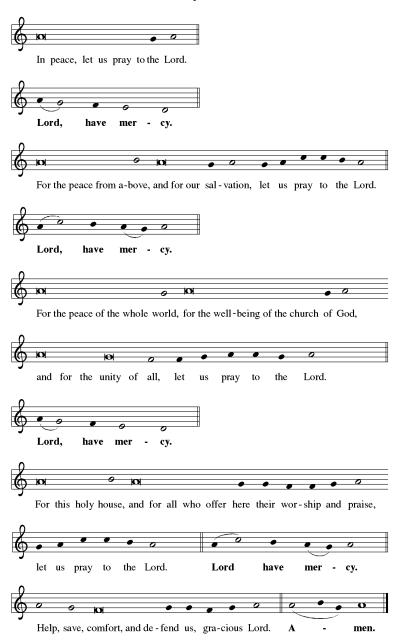
Let us sing of that promise with the fourth verse of "O Come, O Come Emanuel"

Sing O Come, O Come Emanuel ELW #257

O come, O Branch of Jesse, Free your own from Satan's tyranny; From depths of hell your people save, And give them vict'ry o'er the grave.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to you, O Israel

Text: *Psalteriolum Cantionum Catholicarum*, Kola, 1710; tr. Composite Music: French processional, 15<sup>th</sup> cent. Test sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress All rights reserved. Used with permission. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #734594-A. Kyrie



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#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of surprises, You blessed Mary and Elizabeth with the gift of holy children, and they faithfully embraced your calling. Give us peace and joy as we await your coming among us, in the form of a humble baby—our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE ASSEMBLY IS SEATED

Children's Sermon & Song

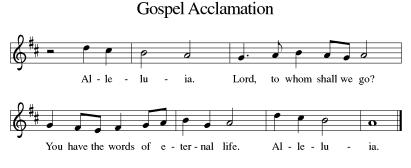
**Pastor Jennifer Boyd** 

"He Came Down" ELW #253

He came down that we may have love; He came down that we may have love; He came down that we may have love; Hallelujah forevermore.

Text: Cameroon traditional Music: Cameroon traditional; arr. John L. Bell, b. 1949 Arr. © 1986 Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #734594-A.

THE ASSEMBLY STANDS



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#### GOSPEL: LUKE 1:26-56

The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.** 

**Reader:** In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, '

## Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.'

**Pastor Jen:** But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel,

## 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?'

**Reader**: The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

**Pastor Jen:** In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry,

## 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

**Reader**: And why has this happened to me that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

Pastor Jen: And Mary said,

'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever.'

And Mary remained with her for about three months and then returned to her home.

The Gospel of the Lord **Praise to you, O Christ.** 

THE ASSEMBLY IS SEATED

#### SERMON

#### **Pastor Jennifer Boyd**

THE ASSEMBLY STANDS

HYMN OF THE DAY: My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness ELW 251

My soul proclaims your greatness, Lord; I sing my Savior's praise! You looked upon my lowliness, And I am full of grace. Now ev'ry land and ev'ry age This blessing shall proclaim— Great wonders you have done for me, And holy is your name.

To all who live in holy fear Your mercy ever flows. With mighty arm you dash the proud, Their scheming hearts expose. The ruthless you have cast aside, The lowly throned instead; The hungry filled with all good things, And rich sent off unfed.

To Israel, your servant blest, Your help is ever sure; The promise to our parents made Their children will secure. Sing glory to the Holy One, Give honor to the Word, And praise the Pow'r of the Most High, One God, by all adored.

Text: With One Voice, 1995, based on the Magnificat Music: English folk tune; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958 Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress Arr. © Oxford University Press All rights reserved. Used with permission. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #734594-A.

Please stand as you are able

#### **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 catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In anticipation of the coming messiah, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

As Mary sought support from her cousin Elizabeth, so lead us to those who can help us in times of unusual challenge in our lives, rather than thinking we can take on the world all by ourselves. God of hope, **Hear our prayer.** 

As we move through the longest stretch of darkness, shine your light in our hearts that we might reflect it outward to a cold world waiting for your salvation. God of hope, Hear **our prayer.** 

From the rising of the sun to its setting, all creatures praise your name, O Lord. May we join their song and live as faithful inhabitants of your abundant earth, caring for all that lives and taking only what we need. God of hope, Hear **our prayer.** 

Be with all who are anticipating the birth of a child: the excited and hopeful, the nervous and conflicted, the fearful and anxious. Bless all children, especially those who are born into difficult circumstances and give parents strength to shepherd the new lives they have created. And grant your healing power to all who need it most. We pause to pray especially for those we name now, aloud or in our hearts.... (*pause*). We also lift up in prayer: Matt, Barbara, Donna, Barbara, Mackenzie, The Myers Family, John, The Parraggio Family, Franco and Ursula and for those who have no one to name them and those who do not know Christ's name. God of hope, Hear our prayer.

We celebrate the life of Katharina von Bora Luther and all the renewers of your church throughout the ages, praying for your wisdom to continue their legacy of proclaiming grace. God of hope, Hear **our prayer.** 

*Here other petitions may be offered silently, aloud or online in the comments.* 

*Pastor:* We lift all our prayers, spoken and unspoken, offering them into your loving arms, trusting in your love and mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.** 

## SHARING OF PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always And also with you

You are invited to share signs of peace with others Please check with those around you if they are comfortable with a handshake, elbow bump or other physical signs before reaching out. Peace signs and humble bows are a healthy alternative.

THE ASSEMBLY SITS

## Offering

You are invited to use this time as moments of silence for prayer and reflection. You are also encouraged to continue to share your offering with Trinity be mailing them to the church office or by donating online via our website: www.trinitybrewsterny.org)



Anthem: "Jesus, the Light of the World" George Elderkin

OFFERING SONG: *God of the fertile fields* (All Creation Sings, #1063, vs. 1 & 2 only)

God of the fertile fields, Lord of the earth that yields our daily bread; forth from thy bounteous hand come gifts thy love has planned, that all in every land be clothed and fed.

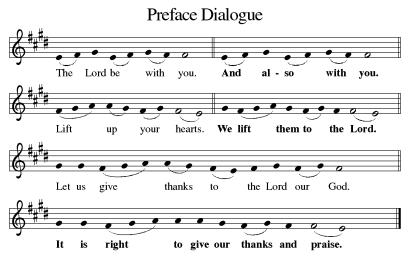
We would thy stewards be, holding in trust from thee all thou dost give; help us in love to share, teach us like you to care, that earth may all be fair; your children live.

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#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

You long to see your people treated fairly, and for all to have their needs provided. Bless and use these gifts for the work of your just kingdom throughout the world, that all might see and know your love and mercy. Amen.

#### **GREAT THANKSGIVING:**

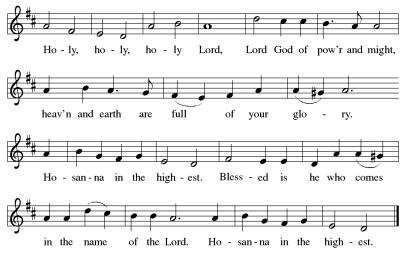


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#### PREFACE

It is indeed our right, responsibility and 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 a 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



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## EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

## Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness, the shadows, and in the light.

## Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hope and dreams.

#### Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh who in the night...do this in remembrance of me

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth.

## We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

## Come, Lord Jesus

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people, fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth Come, Holy Spirit

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever. Amen

We pray with and for all people, joining in the prayer Christ taught, saying...

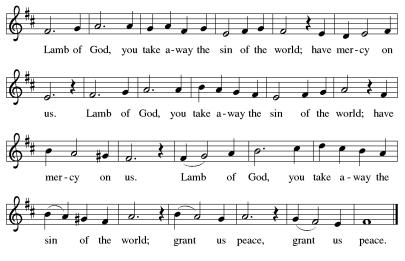
#### LORD'S PRAYER

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, 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

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

You fill the hungry with good things and feed your children at this table of mercy and salvation. Gather us now as one to receive your body and blood, assured of your forgiveness and joyful in the anticipation of your coming among us. **Thanks be to God!** 

## Lamb of God



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## THE ASSEMBLY IS SEATED

#### DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION AND BLESSINGS

All the baptized are welcome to feast in the Eucharist. You may receive only the bread or wine and still experience the full benefit of our Lord's meal. Those who do not receive bread or wine are invited to come for a blessing.

All members and visitors, please complete a Record of Communion card (in the pew racks) and hand it to an usher as you come forward.

Ushers will direct you to come forward at the appropriate time.

Communion Hymn: Let All Mortal Flesh Be Silent ELW 490

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, And with fear and trembling stand; Ponder nothing earthly minded, For with blessing in his hand Christ our God to earth descending Comes full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary, As of old on earth he stood, Lord of lords in human vesture, In the body and the blood, He will give to all the faithful His own self for heav'nly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven Spreads it vanguard on the way; As the Light of light, descending From the realms of endless day, Comes, the pow'rs of hell to vanquish, As the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph, Cherubim with sleep-less eye, Veil their faces to the presence, As with cease-less voice they cry: "Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, Lord Most High!"

Text: Liturgy of St. James; tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1829-1885, alt. Music: French folk tune, 17<sup>th</sup> cent. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #734594-A.

Words for additional Communion hymns may be found on the card inside the back cover of your hymnal.

AFTER ALL HAVE RETURNED TO THEIR PLACES, THE ASSEMBLY STANDS.

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

#### **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

We thank you, O God, that you have strengthened our hearts this feast of life and salvation. Shine the light of Christ on our path that we may do justice, love kindness and walk with you now and forever **Amen** 

#### + SENDING +

#### **Mission and Ministry Announcements**

THE ASSEMBLY STANDS

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN: Joy to the World ELW 267

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king; Let ev'ry heart prepare him room And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ, While fields and floods, Rocks, hills, and plains Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sin and sorrow grow Nor thorns infest the ground; He comes to make His blessings flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is found, Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the nations prove The glories of his righteousness And wonders of his love, And wonders of his love, And wonders, wonders of his love. Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748 Music: English melody, 18<sup>th</sup> cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872 All rights reserved. Used with permission. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #734594-A.

DISMISSAL The worship has ended, let the service begin! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord! Thanks be to God!

## Postlude: "Vom Himmel hoch da komm ich her"

Georg Friedrich Kauffmann



**Worship notes:** Portions of the worship service has been adapted by Pastor Jen from the following resources:

- Introduction, Absolution, Prayer of the Day, Offering prayer, Prayers of Intercession, Invitation to Communion (@ Clergy stuff)
- + Call to Worship, Confession, Candlelighting (Bible Worm, Rev. Teri Peterson.)
- + Other parts of worship are from the hymnals, Evangelical Lutheran Worship and All Creation Sings

#### **Music Notes:**

**Georg Friedrich Kauffmann (1679 – 1735)** was a Baroque composer and organist from northern-central Germany who composed primarily sacred works for the organ and voice. He was born in Ostramondra, Thuringia. Little is known of his early life; however, he did have early keyboard training with J.H. Buttstett in Erfurt. His latter years of education were under J.F. Alberti in Merseburg with whom he studied organ and composition. In 1698, Alberti suffered an injury to his right hand, inhibiting his ability to play the organ at the cathedral. Kauffmann replaced Alberti permanently as teacher in Merseburg as well as court and cathedral organist upon Alberti's death in 1710. Kauffmann is also attributed to have ascertained during this period the occupation of Director of Church Music for the Duke of Saxe-Merseburg, and might have also served as Kapellmeister.

Ultimately Kauffmann went to Leipzig in 1722 to compete for the position of Kapellmeister along with seven other predominant musicians of Germany at the time. The position of Kapellmeister of Leipzig was extremely coveted by most in the musical community; the position was formally held by Johann Kuhnau until his death that same year. Kauffmann's audition went well, even though he asked for a second hearing by the town council who were responsible for hiring. He was the prime contender for the position until April 1723 when J.S. Bach was hired. A decade after the Leipzig Affair, Kauffmann started to publish in sequential volumes his Harmonische Seelenlust which were a complete edition of his organ chorales. However, he died of consumption in Merseburg on 24 March 1735 before they had been completely published. His widow saw the endeavor though and completed the publication of the Harmonische Seelenlust.

Almost nothing is known about **George D. Elderkin (b. 1845; d. 1928).** There was a George D. Elderkin Publishing Company in Chicago which published four collections of gospel hymns entitled The Finest of the Wheat. Book Three (1904) includes 259 songs.

## SCHEDULED TO SERVE SUNDAY:

		Assisting Minister	Ushers
December 24 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 AM Holy Communion	Kathie Ruhs	Bruce Markert

## LET'S WISH HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:



Kaitlyn Hansen	Dec 24
Laurie Bell	Dec 27



Sunday, Dec 24, Holy Communion 9:30 AM 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent Sunday, Dec 24, Holy Communion 4:00 PM Christmas Eve Service Sunday, Dec 24, Holy Communion 8:00 PM Christmas Eve Service Monday, Dec 25, Holy Communion 9:30 AM Christmas Day Service Sunday, Dec 31, Holy Communion 9:30 AM Lessons & Carols

A complete CALENDAR can be found at <u>www.trinitybrewsterny.org</u>

**PARENTS OF INFANTS AND YOUNG CHILDREN:** Restless or unhappy children can be taken to the Narthex, where worship can be heard over speakers. Busy bags with activities are available in the narthex for our youngest worshippers. Please return the bags at the end of the service.

## TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT:

As a people of God, we desire to experience the presence of God in our LIVES THAT WE MIGHT BE THE PRESENCE OF GOD IN THE LIVES OF OTHERS. **Trinity Lutheran Church** 2103 Route 6, Brewster, NY 10509; 845-279-5181; <u>www.trinitybrewsterny.org;</u> Office Hrs.: M-F, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM Rev. Jennifer Boyd, Pastor: <u>revjedyer1@yahoo.com;</u> 845-279-5181 Charles A. Germain, Jr. and Dorothy R. Kafalas: Deacons Franklyn W. Commisso, Ph.D.: Minister of Music Sue Ellen Kelly, Office Admin: <u>TrinLutheranOffice@yahoo.com</u> Peter Donoghue, Council President: <u>trinitylutherancouncil@yahoo.com</u> Members of Trinity: Ministers to the Community & World