

**Trinity Lutheran Church**

**Advent Midweek 2**

**December 11, 2024, 1:00 & 7:00 p.m.**

**WELCOME TO TRINITY!**

Thank you for worshipingwith us today. We want to know who you are, so please provide your contact information in the Friendship Book as it is passed during the Offertory. If you are visiting, honor us by signing the Guest Register in the Narthex.

There are times in our worship service where we stand or kneel. Feel free to participate in either as you are able or feel comfortable to remain seated.

Please ask an usher should you require a hearing assistance device.

(†) ~ Those who wish may make the sign of the Cross in remembrance of their Baptism.

**REQUESTS FOR PRAYER**

If you have a prayer request, please fill out a Blue Card from the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. Prayer requests may also be emailed to trinityoffice@bellsouth.net or to pastorjeffwebb@yahoo.com.

**FOR PARENTS WITH YOUNG CHILDREN**

We are delighted that you have brought your child to worship! We invite you to use the Cry Room as a courtesy to others if your little one gets a little rambunctious. Our Cry Room, complete with seating and children's activities, is located at the back of the Sanctuary. The service can be heard through the sound system. We hope your children feel glad they were here and that they are a part of the Trinity family!

***Our Vision:***

***Growing in God’s Word to Share Christ’s Love***

***Our Mission:***

***Led by God, equipped as disciples through Word and Sacrament,***

***we are empowered by the Holy Spirit to reach out with the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all.***

**AS WE GATHER TODAY**

A word used in many of the hymns of the Advent and Christmas season is “glory.” Both people and angels give glory to God in response to the fulfillment of the promised birth of the Savior. Glory is associated with the presence of God throughout the Scriptures. In Exodus, Moses records, “The glory of the Lord dwelt on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it” (Exodus 24:16) and in the Book of Revelation, a vision of the heavenly Jerusalem is shared with these words: “And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb” (Revelation 21:23). God has great glory and continues to share it with His people—including us! In his Advent hymn text “Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers,” Laurentius Laurenti, a noted Danish-German musical educator born in 1660, calls God’s people His “heirs of glory” who are finally to be gathered “around the throne of glory” in God’s eternal kingdom (*LSB* 515:2–3). Filled with hope and expectation, we respond to that Advent call!

**Advent Midweek 2**

**The Song of Elizabeth**

*Please Stand*

**INVOCATION**

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION** *Psalm 124:8*

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**People: who made heaven and earth.**

Pastor: In this season of penitence and reflection, let us think of our unworthiness; confess before God that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed; and ask for His merciful forgiveness.

**People: Almighty God, have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to life everlasting. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. May the God of peace Himself sanctify you wholly; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**People: Amen.**

**HYMN 331** “The Advent of Our King”





5 Before the dawning day
    Let sin’s dark deeds be gone,
The sinful self be put away,
    The new self now put on.

D 6 All glory to the Son,
    Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one
    Through all eternity.

Text and tune: Public domain

**OPENING SENTENCES** *Psalm 108:1–6*

Pastor: My heart is steadfast, O God! I will sing and make melody with all my being!

**People: Awake, O harp and lyre! I will awake the dawn!**

Pastor: I will give thanks to You, O Lord, among the peoples; I will sing praises to You among the nations.

**People: For Your steadfast love is great above the heavens; Your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.**

Pastor: Be exalted, O God, above the heavens! Let Your glory be over all the earth!

**People: That Your beloved ones may be delivered, give salvation by Your right hand and answer me!**

**SALUTATION**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: Let us pray.
O Jesus, Sun of Righteousness, may Your divine glory enlighten us with the brightness of Your coming. Teach us Your ways, O Lord, that we may grow in true wisdom and may reflect Your glory into our darkened world until that day when, by Your grace, we come to the glorious inheritance that You have prepared for those who love You. In Your blessed name we pray.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: The text of the next hymn, “When All the World Was Cursed,” was written by Johann Olearius, a German hymn and devotion writer who lived in the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. Originally written for June 24, the day designated for The Nativity of John the Baptist, it is an appropriate Advent hymn as well. As the son born late in life to Elizabeth and Zechariah, John had a singular calling to prepare the way for Jesus, the Messiah. His message was filled not only with a call to repentance but also, as the hymn reminds us, with “words of consolation” that indeed God’s plan of salvation was soon to be realized in Jesus, the Savior, to whom John zealously pointed. Celebrating the Advent unfolding of God’s gracious plan, together we sing the hymn.

*Be Seated*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** *2 Chronicles 29:25–30*

(God’s people are joined in joyful worship.)

 And he stationed the Levites in the house of the Lord with cymbals, harps, and lyres, according to the commandment of David and of Gad the king’s seer and of Nathan the prophet, for the commandment was from the Lord through his prophets. The Levites stood with the instruments of David, and the priests with the trumpets. Then Hezekiah commanded that the burnt offering be offered on the altar. And when the burnt offering began, the song to the Lord began also, and the trumpets, accompanied by the instruments of David king of Israel. The whole assembly worshiped, and the singers sang and the trumpeters sounded. All this continued until the burnt offering was finished. When the offering was finished, the king and all who were present with him bowed themselves and worshiped. And Hezekiah the king and the officials commanded the Levites to sing praises to the Lord with the words of David and of Asaph the seer. And they sang praises with gladness, and they bowed down and worshiped.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM** *Psalm 29*

Pastor: Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

**People: Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His name; worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness.**

*Women: The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord, over many waters.*

*Men: The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.*

*Women: The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon. He makes Lebanon to skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox.*

*Men: The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire.*

*Women: The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.*

*Men: The voice of the Lord makes the deer give birth and strips the forests bare, and in His temple all cry, “Glory!”*

Pastor: The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king forever.

**People: May the Lord give strength to His people! May the Lord bless His people with peace!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**EPISTLE** *1 Peter 4:7–11*

(Peter encourages God’s people to bring glory to God through their lives.)

 The end of all things is at hand; therefore, be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*Please Stand*

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Luke 1:39–45* (The visitation of Mary to Elizabeth)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

 In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

*Be Seated*

**HYMN OF THE DAY 338** “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”









Text and tune: Public domain

**SERMON**

**OFFERING**

*Please Stand*

**OFFERTORY**













*Kneel or Be Seated*

**THE LITANY**

Pastor: O Lord,

**People: have mercy.**

Pastor: O Christ,

**People: have mercy.**

Pastor: O Lord,

**People: have mercy.**

Pastor: O Christ,

**People: hear us.**

Pastor: God the Father in heaven,

**People: have mercy.**

Pastor: God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

**People: have mercy.**

Pastor: God the Holy Spirit,

**People: have mercy.**

Pastor: Be gracious to us.

**People: Spare us, good Lord.**

Pastor: Be gracious to us.

**People: Help us, good Lord.**

Pastor: From all sin, from all error, from all evil;
From the crafts and assaults of the devil; from sudden and evil death;
From pestilence and famine; from war and bloodshed; from sedition and from
rebellion;
From lightning and tempest; from all calamity by fire and water; and from everlasting death:

**People: Good Lord, deliver us.**

Pastor: By the mystery of Your holy incarnation; by Your holy nativity;
By Your Baptism, fasting, and temptation; by Your agony and bloody sweat; by Your cross and passion; by Your precious death and burial;
By Your glorious resurrection and ascension; and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter:

**People: Help us, good Lord.**

Pastor: In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death; and in the day of judgment:

**People: Help us, good Lord.**

Pastor: We poor sinners implore You

**People: to hear us, O Lord.**

Pastor: To rule and govern Your holy Christian Church; to preserve all pastors and ministers of Your church in the true knowledge and understanding of Your wholesome Word and to sustain them in holy living;
To put an end to all schisms and causes of offense; to bring into the way of truth all who have erred and are deceived;
To beat down Satan under our feet; to send faithful laborers into Your harvest; and to accompany Your Word with Your grace and Spirit:

**People: We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

Pastor: To raise those who fall and to strengthen those who stand; and to comfort and help the weakhearted and the distressed:

**People: We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

Pastor: To give to all peoples concord and peace; to preserve our land from discord and strife; to give our country Your protection in every time of need;
To direct and defend our president and all in authority; to bless and protect our magistrates and all our people;
To watch over and help all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation; to protect and guide all who travel;
To grant all women with child, and all mothers with infant children, increasing happiness in their blessings; to defend all orphans and widows and provide for them;
To strengthen and keep all sick persons and young children; to free those in bondage; and to have mercy on us all:

**People: We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

Pastor: To forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers and to turn their hearts; to give and preserve for our use the kindly fruits of the earth; and graciously to hear our prayers:

**People: We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,

**People: we implore You to hear us.**

Pastor: Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

**People: have mercy.**

Pastor: Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

**People: have mercy.**

Pastor: Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

**People: grant us Your peace.**

Pastor: O Christ,

**People: hear us.**

Pastor: O Lord,

**People: have mercy.**

Pastor: O Christ,

**People: have mercy.**

Pastor: O Lord,

**People: have mercy. Amen.**

**LORD’S PRAYER** *Matthew 6:9–13*

**People:** **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.**

**CLOSING COLLECT**

Pastor: Let us pray.
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, Lord, in Your mercy grant us a safe lodging and a holy rest and peace at the last; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

*Please Stand*

**BENEDICTION**

Pastor: The almighty and merciful Lord—the Father, the X Son, and the Holy Spirit—bless and preserve you.

**People: Amen.**

**HYMN 345** “Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding”







Text and tune: Public domain

*Be Seated*

**TO THE GLORY OF GOD**

The Altar flowers are given to the glory of God.

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 1.

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**HOLIDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**MIDWEEK ADVENT WORSHIP**

Wednesday Worship Services –December 11, & 18 at 1:00 & 7:00 p.m.

**CHRISTMAS WORSHIP**

 Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service – 5:00 p.m.

 Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship with Holy Communion – 7:00 p.m.

 Christmas Day Worship with Holy Communion – 10:00 a.m.

**THE GENEALOGY OF JESUS**  *Matthew 1:1–16*

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of **David**, the son of **Abraham**.

Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by **Tamar**, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram, and Ram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by **Rahab**, and Boaz the father of Obed by **Ruth**, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king.

And David was the father of Solomon by the **wife of Uriah**, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asaph, and Asaph the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of **Joseph** the husband of **Mary**, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ.

**SEASON OF THE CHURCH YEAR**

We begin the church year with an ending and a beginning. Advent is the season before Christmas during which we anticipate the Second Coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is in this Second Coming that He will judge the earth and raise all the dead. Those who have faith will be given their reward in heaven and live with Him eternally. Advent is a beginning as well. For we look forward to the time we celebrate Christ’s first advent, His birth on this earth, which we celebrate on Christmas day. The color for Advent is blue, which suggests hope for us while we wait.

**THE SYMBOLS OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

The evergreen wreath symbolizes eternal life in Christ. The candles are symbolic of Jesus Christ, the Light of the World. The act of lighting more candles each week anticipates the imminent coming of Christ.

 Each candle has a specific meaning:

1. **Prophecy Candle** announces a period of waiting for our Lord. – **Hope**
2. **Bethlehem Candle** symbolizes preparing to receive the Christ Child. – **Love**
3. **Shepherd’s Candle** symbolizes sharing of the news of Christ’s birth. The pink color is representative of their joy and witness to so great an event! – **Joy**
4. **Angels’ Candle** symbolizes Christ’s final coming on Judgment Day when He will appear in glory with all His angels. – **Peace**
5. **Christ Candle** is lit on Christmas Eve. This central candle signifies that the Light of the World, **Jesus, has come**.

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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