



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
1186 Jason Drive, Greencastle, PA

TLC Renuws



We want to be a congregation who continues:
Trusting God
Loving and Connecting with God and one another
Reaching out to all God's children

SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS
January 2, 2022 10:00 AM

Ministers to the World – Congregation of Trinity Lutheran
Mission – *To Share Christ in Word and Deed*
Office Phone – 717-597-9348

WE WELCOME ALL WHO WORSHIP HERE THIS DAY!

- If you are visiting with us, we are honored by your presence. If you are seeking a church home, please contact the Pastor.
 - Holy Communion is celebrated in this morning's worship. All are welcome to the table. Young children should follow the practice of their home congregation.
 - Masks covering nose and mouth are strongly recommended during the service.
 - The Worship Service will be available on You Tube, Facebook and the Website after the service. It is being recorded through Facebook Live.
 - Congregational responses are in bold.
- * *Please stand*

Welcome and Announcements

GATHERING

Call to Worship

***Brief Order of Confession**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, Love from the beginning, Word made flesh, Breath of heaven. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sinfulness before God and one another, trusting in God's endless mercy and love.

Merciful God, we confess that we are not perfect. We have said and done things we regret. We have tried to earn your redeeming grace, while denying it to others. We have resisted your call to be your voice in the world. Forgive us, loving God. Give us your righteousness, the strength to put aside our failures, and the courage to try again. Amen.

Dear people of God, hear the good news: Christ the Savior is born! You are loved and forgiven in the name of Jesus, who has come among us. You are freed from proving that you deserve to be loved, because God's love is given to you as the most precious gift of all. Rejoice in this love and share it with the world. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn of Praise

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

Chorus

Turn your eyes upon Jesus
Look full in His wonderful face
And the things of earth
Will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace

1 O soul are you weary and troubled
No light in the darkness you see
There's light for a look at the Savior
And life more abundant and free

Chorus

2 Through death into life everlasting
He passed and we follow Him there
Over us sin no more hath dominion
For more than conquerors we are

Chorus

Public Domain

***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.**

***Prayer of the Day:** We pray together: **We give you thanks, O Lord of glory, for the example of Stephen the first martyr, who looked to heaven and prayed for his persecutors. Grant that we also may pray for our enemies and seek forgiveness for those who hurt us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WORD

First Reading – Acts 6:8 – 7:2a,51-60

⁸Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. ⁹Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and others of those from Cilicia and Asia, stood up and argued with Stephen. ¹⁰But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he spoke. ¹¹Then they secretly instigated some men to say, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God." ¹²They stirred up the people as well as the elders and the scribes; then they suddenly confronted him, seized him, and brought him before the

council. ¹³They set up false witnesses who said, “This man never stops saying things against this holy place and the law; ¹⁴for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and will change the customs that Moses handed on to us.” ¹⁵And all who sat in the council looked intently at him, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel.^{7:}

¹Then the high priest asked him, “Are these things so?” ^{2a}And Stephen replied:

“Brothers and fathers, listen to me.

⁵¹“You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you are forever opposing the Holy Spirit, just as your ancestors used to do. ⁵²Which of the prophets did your ancestors not persecute? They killed those who foretold the coming of the Righteous One, and now you have become his betrayers and murderers. ⁵³You are the ones that received the law as ordained by angels, and yet you have not kept it.”

⁵⁴When they heard these things, they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen. ⁵⁵But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶“Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” ⁵⁷But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the twenty-third chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

***Gospel – Matthew 23:34-39**

[Jesus said:] ³⁴“Therefore I send you prophets, sages, and scribes, some of whom you will kill and crucify, and some you will flog in your synagogues and pursue from town to town, ³⁵so that upon you may come all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah son of Barachiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar. ³⁶Truly I tell you, all this will come upon this generation.

³⁷“Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁸See, your house is left to you, desolate. ³⁹For I tell you; you will not see me again until you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

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

Sermon – Dave Wolfe

Questions to Ponder:

- *We want to relate to Stephen but so often we behave like the Jewish leaders. How is God calling you to open your mind and heart to the new thing God is doing?*
- *While being stoned, Stephen prayed for those who were stoning him. How is God inviting you to love your enemies?*
- *As we wait for Jesus second coming, Christ comes to us daily through the Holy Spirit. Use the slip in the bulletin or the Facebook comments to share your God moment from this week.*

Time of Silence: *At our best Trinity is passionate about God. We respond to God's love becoming still, closing our eyes and opening our heart spaces to God's presence.*

***Sermon Hymn**

Of the Father's Love Begotten (ELW #295)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Of the Father's love begotten
ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega,
he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have
been,
and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore. | 3 This is he whom seers in old time
chanted of with one accord,
whom the voices of the prophets
promised in their faithful word;
now he shines, the long-expected;
let creation praise its Lord
evermore and evermore. |
| 2 Oh, that birth forever blessed,
when the virgin, full of grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving,
bore the Savior of our race,
and the babe, the world's
redeemer,
first revealed his sacred face,
evermore and evermore. | 4 Let the heights of heav'n adore him;
angel hosts, his praises sing;
pow'rs, dominions, bow before him
and extol our God and King;
let no tongue on earth be silent,
ev'ry voice in concert ring
evermore and evermore. |

(continues on next page)

5 Christ, to thee, with God the Father,
and, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
hymn and chant and high thanksgiving
and unwearied praises be:
honor, glory, and dominion,
and eternal victory
evermore and evermore! Amen.

Text: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348-413; tr. composite

***Prayers of the Church** - *(Each petition ends with "Hear us, O God,". The Congregation responds "your mercy is great.")*

MEAL

(To be safe, you received a pre-package Communion kit with a host and cup of juice. You will be instructed on when to open the kit and receive Jesus in the bread and cup.)

***Offertory**

Everything we have, do and are is a gift from God. God invites us to use our gifts of time, talent, money, and other blessings to love others. We join God in the work of healing our broken world. Contributions may be placed in the collection plate, mailed or there is a donation button on the website. We pray - offering ourselves and our contributions to the glory of God.

Generous God, **you have given us life, this community, and these gifts of the earth that become the meal of your grace. Move in our hearts, that we might use your gifts to bring hope and blessing wherever we go, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

***Dialogue**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***Words of Institution**

We celebrated Communion together with Lessons and Carols, blessing the bread and cup we share today.

We shared the story of the night in which he was betrayed when our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

And again after supper when Jesus took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

***Lord's Prayer**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray the prayer Our Savior taught us: **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.**

***Invitation to Communion**

Love has come: God's love for all people. Come and eat, for Christ invites you.

Communion

The body of Christ given for you.

The blood of Christ shed for you.

***Table Blessing**

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

***Post Communion Prayer**

Emmanuel, God with us, you grace us with life and breath and give us bread for the journey. **Send us out in service to this world that you love, telling the amazing news of your coming to be Savior and Lord of all. Amen.**

***Sign of Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.** *(If you are joining us on Facebook, please share Christ's peace with one another in the comments.)*

*Benediction

Grace from God's own heart, peace from the † Child in the manger, and strength from the Spirit of life be blessings for you today and forever. **Amen**

SENDING

*Sending Hymn

Go Tell It On the Mountain (ELW 290)

Refrain

Go tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and ev'rywhere;
go tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born!

1 While shepherds kept their
watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light. *Refrain*

2 The shepherds feared and trembled
when, lo, above the earth
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed our Savior's birth.
Refrain

3 Down in a lonely manger
the humble Christ was born;
and God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn. *Refrain*

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872-1925, stanzas, alt.

*Sending for Service

Christ is born. Go tell it on the mountain and everywhere. **Thanks be to God.
We will!**

SERVING TRINITY TODAY

Director of Music – Sandra Wingert

Liturgist – Dave Wolfe

Singer – Hannah Ruffner

Usher – Donna Wolfe

IT Ministry – IT Team

Communion Preparers – Charlie and Beth Ford